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(54) Title: CLEAR OIL-CONTAINING PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions and methods for improved solubilization of triglycerides and improved delivery of therapeutic agents. Compositions of the present invention include a triglyceride and a carrier, where the carrier is formed from a combination of at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. Upon dilution with an aqueous solvent, the composition forms a clear, aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and surfactants. An optional therapeutic agent can be incorporated into the composition, or can be co-administered with the composition. The invention also provides methods of enhancing triglyceride solubility and methods of treatment with therapeutic agents using these compositions.

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CLEAR OIL-CONTAINING PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to drug and nutrient delivery systems, and in particular to pharmaceutical compositions and methods for the improved solubilization of triglycerides and improved delivery of therapeutic agents.

BACKGROUND

A wide variety of therapeutic agents, such as drugs, nutritional agents, and 10 cosmeceuticals, are conventionally formulated in oil/water emulsion systems. These conventional emulsions take advantage of the increased solubility of many therapeutic agents in oils (triglycerides). Thus, one conventional approach is to solubilize a therapeutic agent in a bioacceptable triglyceride solvent, such as a digestible vegetable oil, and disperse this oil phase in an aqueous solution. The dispersion may be stabilized by 15 emulsifying agents and provided in emulsion form. Alternatively, the therapeutic agent can be provided in a water-free formulation, with an aqueous dispersion being formed *in vivo* in the gastrointestinal environment. The properties of these oil-based formulations are determined by such factors as the size of the triglyceride/therapeutic agent colloidal particles and the presence or absence of surfactant additives.

20 In simplest form, a triglyceride-containing formulation suitable for delivering therapeutic agents through an aqueous environment is an oil-in-water emulsion. Such emulsions contain the hydrophobic therapeutic agent solubilized in an oil phase which is dispersed in an aqueous environment with the aid of a surfactant. The surfactant may be present in the oil-based formulation itself, or may be a compound provided in the 25 gastrointestinal system, such as bile salts, which are known to be *in vivo* emulsifying agents. The colloidal oil particles sizes are relatively large, ranging from several hundred nanometers to several microns in diameter, in a broad particle size distribution. Since the particle sizes are on the order of or greater than the wavelength range of visible light, such emulsions, when prepared in an emulsion dosage form, are visibly "cloudy" or "milky" to 30 the naked eye.

Although conventional triglyceride-based pharmaceutical compositions are useful in solubilizing and delivering some therapeutic agents, such compositions are subject to a

1 number of significant limitations and disadvantages. Emulsions are thermodynamically
unstable, and colloidal emulsion particles will spontaneously agglomerate, eventually
leading to complete phase separation. The tendency to agglomerate and phase separate
presents problems of storage and handling, and increases the likelihood that
5 pharmaceutical emulsions initially properly prepared will be in a less optimal, less
effective, and poorly-characterized state upon ultimate administration to a patient.
Uncharacterized degradation is particularly disadvantageous, since increased particle size
slows the rate of transport of the colloidal particle and digestion of the oil component, and
hence the rate and extent of absorption of the therapeutic agent. These problems lead to
10 poorly-characterized and potentially harmful changes in the effective dosage received by
the patient. Moreover, changes in colloidal emulsion particle size are also believed to
render absorption more sensitive to and dependent upon conditions in the gastrointestinal
tract, such as pH, enzyme activity, bile components, and stomach contents. Such
uncertainty in the rate and extent of ultimate absorption of the therapeutic agent severely
15 compromises the medical professional's ability to safely administer therapeutically
effective dosages. In addition, when such compositions are administered parenterally, the
presence of large particles can block blood capillaries, further compromising patient
safety.

A further disadvantage of conventional triglyceride-containing compositions is the
20 dependence of therapeutic agent absorption on the rate and extent of lipolysis. Although
colloidal emulsion particles can transport therapeutic agents through the aqueous
environment of the gastrointestinal tract, ultimately the triglyceride must be digested and
the therapeutic agent must be released in order to be absorbed through the intestinal
mucosa. The triglyceride carrier is emulsified by bile salts and hydrolyzed, primarily by
25 pancreatic lipase. The rate and extent of lipolysis, however, are dependent upon several
factors that are difficult to adequately control. For example, the amount and rate of bile
salt secretion affect the lipolysis of the triglycerides, and the bile salt secretion can vary
with stomach contents, with metabolic abnormalities, and with functional changes of the
liver, bile ducts, gall bladder and intestine. Lipase availability in patients with decreased
30 pancreatic secretory function, such as cystic fibrosis or chronic pancreatitis, may be
undesirably low, resulting in a slow and incomplete triglyceride lipolysis. The activity of
lipase is pH dependent, with deactivation occurring at about pH 3, so that the lipolysis rate

1 will vary with stomach contents, and may be insufficient in patients with gastric acid
hyper-secretion. Moreover, certain surfactants commonly used in the preparation of
pharmaceutical emulsions, such as polyethoxylated castor oils, may themselves act as
inhibitors of lipolysis. Although recent work suggests that certain surfactant
5 combinations, when used in combination with digestible oils in emulsion preparations, can
substantially decrease the lipolysis-inhibiting effect of some common pharmaceutical
surfactants (see, U.S. Patent No. 5,645,856), such formulations are still subject to the other
disadvantages of pharmaceutical emulsions and triglyceride-based formulations.

Yet another approach is based on formation of "microemulsions." Like an
10 emulsion, a microemulsion is a liquid dispersion of oil in water, stabilized by surfactants.
Conventional microemulsions, however, present several safety and efficiency problems.
The amount of triglyceride that can be solubilized in a conventional microemulsion is
generally quite small, resulting in a poor loading capacity. In order to solubilize
15 significant amounts of triglycerides, large amounts of hydrophilic surfactant and/or
solvents must be used. These high concentrations of hydrophilic surfactant and solvents
raise questions of safety, since the levels of hydrophilic surfactant and solvent needed can
approach or exceed bioacceptable levels.

Thus, there is a need for pharmaceutical compositions that overcome the
limitations and safety concerns of conventional triglyceride-containing formulations, but
20 without suffering from the disadvantages described above.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides pharmaceutical compositions for improved
solubilization of triglycerides, and improved delivery of therapeutic agents. It has been
surprisingly found that pharmaceutical compositions containing significant amounts of
25 triglycerides can be formed without the disadvantages of conventional triglyceride-
containing compositions by using a combination of surfactants and triglycerides in
amounts such that when the pharmaceutical composition is mixed with an aqueous
solution, a clear aqueous dispersion is formed. Such compositions can be co-administered
30 with a therapeutic agent to increase the rate and/or extend of bioabsorption of the
therapeutic agent, or can be provided with a therapeutic agent in the preconcentrate
composition or in the diluent solution.

1 In one embodiment, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions having a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier including at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition
5 forms a clear aqueous dispersion. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the composition is capable of containing more triglyceride than can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion having only one surfactant, the surfactant being hydrophilic.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions having a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier including at least one
10 hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the composition is capable of containing more triglyceride than can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion having a hydrophilic surfactant but not having
15 a hydrophobic surfactant..

In another embodiment, the triglyceride itself can have therapeutic value as, for example, a nutritional oil, or absorption-promoting value as, for example, a long-chain triglyceride ("LCT", having fatty acid chains longer than C₁₀ and preferably C₁₂ - C₂₂) or a medium-chain triglyceride ("MCT", having C₆-C₁₀ fatty acid chains). Thus, in this
20 embodiment, the present invention provides pharmaceutical compositions including a triglyceride having nutritional and/or absorption-promoting value, and a carrier. The carrier includes at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. Optionally, the carrier can include at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon dilution
25 with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to methods of increasing the amount of triglyceride that can be solubilized in an aqueous system, by providing a composition including a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier including at least two
30 surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic, and dispersing the composition in an aqueous solution so that a clear aqueous dispersion is formed. Within the clear aqueous dispersion, the triglyceride is capable of being solubilized in an amount greater than the

1 amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and a carrier having only one surfactant and having the same total surfactant concentration. Optionally, the carrier can include at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant.

5 In another aspect, the present invention relates to triglyceride-containing pharmaceutical compositions as described in the preceding embodiments, which further include a therapeutic agent. In particular embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug or a hydrophilic drug. In other embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a nutritional agent. In still further embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a cosmeceutical 10 agent.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to methods of increasing the solubilization of a therapeutic agent in a composition, by providing the therapeutic agent in a composition of the present invention.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical 15 composition which includes a therapeutic agent, a triglyceride and a carrier. The carrier includes at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. Optionally, the carrier includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride, and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon dilution with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous 20 dispersion. The therapeutic agent is present in two amounts, a first amount of the therapeutic agent solubilized in the clear aqueous dispersion, and a second amount of the therapeutic agent that remains non-solubilized but dispersed.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to methods of increasing the rate and/or extent of absorption of therapeutic agents by administering to a patient a 25 pharmaceutical composition of the present invention. In this embodiment, the therapeutic agent can be present in the pharmaceutical composition pre-concentrate, in the diluent, or in a second pharmaceutical composition, such as a conventional commercial formulation, which is co-administered with a pharmaceutical composition of the present invention.

These and other features of the present invention will become more fully apparent 30 from the following description and appended claims, or may be learned by the practice of the invention as set forth hereinafter.

1

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The present invention overcomes the problems described above characteristic of conventional triglyceride-containing formulations by providing unique pharmaceutical compositions which form clear aqueous dispersions upon mixing with an aqueous solution. Surprisingly, the present inventors have found that compositions including triglycerides and a combination of surfactants can solubilize therapeutically effective amounts of therapeutic agents in homogeneous, single-phase systems which are thermodynamically stable and optically clear. The optical clarity is indicative of a very small particle size within the aqueous dispersions, and this small particle size substantially reduces lipolysis dependence of the rate of bioabsorption, and other disadvantages of conventional triglyceride-containing formulations. Use of these formulations is thus believed to result in an enhanced rate and/or extent of absorption of the therapeutic agent. Advantageously, the compositions of the present invention are surprisingly able to solubilize greater amounts of triglycerides than conventional formulations, even when the total surfactant concentration is the same as in a conventional formulation.

A. **Pharmaceutical Compositions**

In one embodiment, the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition including a triglyceride and a carrier. The carrier includes at least two surfactants, at least one of which is a hydrophilic surfactant. Optionally, the carrier includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon dilution with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion. It is a particular and surprising feature of the present invention that the composition is homogeneous and optically clear, despite the presence of substantial amounts of triglycerides, thereby providing surprising and important advantages over conventional triglyceride-containing formulations.

1. Triglycerides

The compositions of the present invention include one or more pharmaceutically acceptable triglycerides. Examples of triglycerides suitable for use in the present invention are shown in Table 1. In general, these triglycerides are readily available from commercial sources. For several triglycerides, representative commercial products and/or commercial suppliers are listed.

1

Table 1: Triglycerides

Triglyceride	Commercial Source
Aceituno oil	
5 Almond oil	Super Refined Almond Oil (Croda)
Araehis oil	
Babassu oil	
Blackcurrant seed oil	
10 Borage oil	
Buffalo ground oil	
Candlenut oil	
Canola oil	Lipex 108 (Abitec)
15 Castor oil	
Chinese vegetable tallow oil	
Cocoa butter	
Coconut oil	Pureco 76 (Abitec)
20 Coffee seed oil	
Corn oil	Super Refined Corn Oil (Croda)
Cottonseed oil	Super Refined Cottonseed Oil (Croda)
Crambe oil	
25 Cuphea species oil	
Evening primrose oil	
Grapeseed oil	
Groundnut oil	
30 Hemp seed oil	
Illipe butter	

- 1 Kapok seed oil
Linseed oil
Menhaden oil Super Refined Menhaden Oil (Croda)
- 5 Mowrah butter
Mustard seed oil
Oiticica oil
Olive oil Super Refined Olive Oil (Croda)
- 10 Palm oil
Palm kernel oil
Peanut oil Super Refined Peanut Oil (Croda)
Poppy seed oil
- 15 Rapeseed oil
Rice bran oil
Safflower oil Super Refined Safflower Oil (Croda)
Sal fat
- 20 Sesame oil Super Refined Sesame Oil (Croda)
Shark liver oil Super Refined Shark Liver Oil (Croda)
Shea nut oil
- 25 Soybean oil Super Refined Soybean Oil (Croda)
Stillingia oil
Sunflower oil
Tall oil
- 30 Tea seed oil
Tobacco seed oil
Tung oil (China wood oil)

1	Ucuhuba	
	Vernonia oil	
	Wheat germ oil	Super Refined Wheat Germ Oil (Croda)
5	Hydrogenated castor oil	Castorwax
	Hydrogenated coconut oil	Pureco 100 (Abitec)
	Hydrogenated cottonseed oil	Dritex C (Abitec)
	Hydrogenated palm oil	Dritex PST (Abitec); Softisan 154 (Hüls)
10	Hydrogenated soybean oil	Sterotex HM NF (Abitec); Dritex S (Abitec)
	Hydrogenated vegetable oil	Sterotex NF (Abitec); Hydrokote M (Abitec)
	Hydrogenated cottonseed and castor oil	Sterotex K (Abitec)
	Partially hydrogenated soybean oil	Hydrokote AP5 (Abitec)
15	Partially soy and cottonseed oil	Apex B (Abitec)
	Glyceryl tributyrate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl tricaproate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl tricaprylate	(Sigma)
20	Glyceryl tricaprate	Captex 1000 (Abitec)
	Glyceryl triundecanoate	Captex 8227 (Abitec)
	Glyceryl trilaurate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl trimyristate	Dynasan 114 (Hüls)
25	Glyceryl tripalmitate	Dynasan 116 (Hüls)
	Glyceryl tristearate	Dynasan 118 (Hüls)
	Glyceryl triarchidate	(Sigma)
30	Glyceryl trimyristoleate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl tripalmitoleate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl trioleate	(Sigma)

1	Glyceryl trilinoleate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl trilinolenate	(Sigma)
	Glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate	Captex 300 (Abitec); Captex 355 (Abitec);
5		Miglyol 810 (Hüls); Miglyol 812 (Hüls)
	Glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/laurate	Captex 350 (Abitec)
	Glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate	Captex 810 (Abitec); Miglyol 818 (Hüls)
	Glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/stearate	Softisan 378 (Hüls); (Larodan)
10	Glyceryl tricaprylate/laurate/stearate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,2-caprylate-3-linoleate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,2-caprate-3-stearate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,2-laurate-3-myristate	(Larodan)
15	Glyceryl 1,2-myristate-3-laurate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,3-palmitate-2-butyrate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,3-stearate-2-caprate	(Larodan)
	Glyceryl 1,2-linoleate-3-caprylate	(Larodan)

20

Fractionated triglycerides, modified triglycerides, synthetic triglycerides, and mixtures of triglycerides are also within the scope of the invention.

Preferred triglycerides include vegetable oils, fish oils, animal fats, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, medium and long-chain triglycerides, 25 and structured triglycerides. It should be appreciated that several commercial surfactant compositions contain small to moderate amounts of triglycerides, typically as a result of incomplete reaction of a triglyceride starting material in, for example, a transesterification reaction. Such commercial surfactant compositions, while nominally referred to as “surfactants”, may be suitable to provide all or part of the triglyceride component for the 30 compositions of the present invention. Examples of commercial surfactant compositions containing triglycerides include some members of the surfactant families Gelucires

1 (Gattefosse), Maisines (Gattefosse), and Imwitors (Hüls). Specific examples of these compositions are:

Gelucire 44/14 (saturated polyglycolized glycerides)

Gelucire 50/13 (saturated polyglycolized glycerides)

5 Gelucire 53/10 (saturated polyglycolized glycerides)

Gelucire 33/01 (semi-synthetic triglycerides of C₈-C₁₈ saturated fatty acids)

Gelucire 39/01 (semi-synthetic glycerides)

other Gelucires, such as 37/06, 43/01, 35/10, 37/02, 46/07, 48/09, 50/02, 62/05,
etc.

10 Maisine 35-I (linoleic glycerides)

Imwitor 742 (caprylic/capric glycerides)

Still other commercial surfactant compositions having significant triglyceride content are known to those skilled in the art. It should be appreciated that such compositions, which contain triglycerides as well as surfactants, may be suitable to 15 provide all or part of the triglyceride component of the compositions of the present invention, as well as all or part of the surfactant component, as described below. Of course, none of the commonly known triglyceride-containing commercial surfactants alone provides the unique pharmaceutical compositions and characteristics as recited in the appended claims.

20 Among the above-listed triglycerides, preferred triglycerides include: almond oil; babassu oil; borage oil; blackcurrant seed oil; canola oil; castor oil; coconut oil; corn oil; cottonseed oil; evening primrose oil; grapeseed oil; groundnut oil; mustard seed oil; olive oil; palm oil; palm kernel oil; peanut oil; rapeseed oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; shark liver oil; soybean oil; sunflower oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil;
25 hydrogenated palm oil; hydrogenated soybean oil; hydrogenated vegetable oil; hydrogenated cottonseed and castor oil; partially hydrogenated soybean oil; partially soy and cottonseed oil; glycetyl tricaproate; glycetyl tricaprylate; glycetyl tricaprivate; glycetyl triundecanoate; glycetyl trilaurate; glycetyl trioleate; glycetyl trilinoleate; glycetyl trilinolenate; glycetyl tricaprylate/caprate; glycetyl tricaprivate/caprate/laurate; glycetyl 30 tricaprivate/caprate/linoleate; and glycetyl tricaprivate/caprate/stearate. Other preferred triglycerides are saturated polyglycolized glycerides (Gelucire 44/14, Gelucire 50/13 and

- 1 Gelucire 53/10), linoleic glycerides (Maisine 35-I), and caprylic/capric glycerides
5 (Imwitor 742).

Among the preferred triglycerides, more preferred triglycerides include: coconut oil; corn oil; olive oil; palm oil; peanut oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; soybean oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil; partially hydrogenated soybean oil; glyceryl tricaprate; glyceryl trilaurate; glyceryl trioleate; glyceryl trilinoleate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides (Gelucire 44/14, Gelucire 50/13 and Gelucire 53/10); linoleic glycerides (Maisine 35-I); and caprylic/capric glycerides (Imwitor 742).

2. Surfactants

The carrier includes a combination of surfactants, at least one of which is a hydrophilic surfactant, with the remaining surfactant or surfactants being hydrophilic or hydrophobic. As is well known in the art, the terms "hydrophilic" and "hydrophobic" are relative terms. To function as a surfactant, a compound must necessarily include polar or charged hydrophilic moieties as well as non-polar hydrophobic (lipophilic) moieties; *i.e.*, a surfactant compound must be amphiphilic. An empirical parameter commonly used to characterize the relative hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity of non-ionic amphiphilic compounds is the hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (the "HLB" value). Surfactants with lower HLB values are more hydrophobic, and have greater solubility in oils, whereas surfactants with higher HLB values are more hydrophilic, and have greater solubility in aqueous solutions.

Using HLB values as a rough guide, hydrophilic surfactants are generally considered to be those compounds having an HLB value greater than about 10, as well as anionic, cationic, or zwitterionic compounds for which the HLB scale is not generally applicable. Similarly, hydrophobic surfactants are compounds having an HLB value less than about 10.

It should be appreciated that the HLB value of a surfactant is merely a rough guide generally used to enable formulation of industrial, pharmaceutical and cosmetic emulsions. For many important surfactants, including several polyethoxylated surfactants, it has been reported that HLB values can differ by as much as about 8 HLB units, depending upon the empirical method chosen to determine the HLB value (Schott, J.

1 *Pharm. Sciences*, 79(1), 87-88 (1990)). Likewise, for certain polypropylene oxide containing block copolymers (poloxamers, available commercially as PLURONIC® surfactants, BASF Corp.), the HLB values may not accurately reflect the true physical chemical nature of the compounds. Finally, commercial surfactant products are generally
5 not pure compounds, but are often complex mixtures of compounds, and the HLB value reported for a particular compound may more accurately be characteristic of the commercial product of which the compound is a major component. Different commercial products having the same primary surfactant component can, and typically do, have different HLB values. In addition, a certain amount of lot-to-lot variability is expected
10 even for a single commercial surfactant product. Keeping these inherent difficulties in mind, and using HLB values as a guide, one skilled in the art can readily identify surfactants having suitable hydrophilicity or hydrophobicity for use in the present invention, as described herein.

The carrier of the present invention includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant.
15 The hydrophilic surfactant can be any surfactant suitable for use in pharmaceutical compositions. Suitable hydrophilic surfactants can be anionic, cationic, zwitterionic or non-ionic, although non-ionic hydrophilic surfactants are presently preferred. Preferably, the carrier includes a mixture of two or more hydrophilic surfactants, more preferably two or more non-ionic hydrophilic surfactants. Also preferred are mixtures of at least one
20 hydrophilic surfactant, preferably non-ionic, and at least one hydrophobic surfactant.

The choice of specific surfactants should be made keeping in mind the particular triglycerides and optional therapeutic agents to be used in the composition, and the range of polarity appropriate for the chosen therapeutic agent. With these general principles in mind, a very broad range of surfactants is suitable for use in the present invention. Such
25 surfactants can be grouped into the following general chemical classes detailed in the Tables herein. The HLB values given in the Tables below generally represent the HLB value as reported by the manufacturer of the corresponding commercial product. In cases where more than one commercial product is listed, the HLB value in the Tables is the value as reported for one of the commercial products, a rough average of the reported
30 values, or a value that, in the judgment of the present inventors, is more reliable.

It should be emphasized that the invention is not limited to the surfactants in the Tables, which show representative, but not exclusive, lists of available surfactants.

1 2.1. Polyethoxylated Fatty Acids

Although polyethylene glycol (PEG) itself does not function as a surfactant, a variety of PEG-fatty acid esters have useful surfactant properties. Among the PEG-fatty acid monoesters, esters of lauric acid, oleic acid, and stearic acid are especially useful.

5 Among the surfactants of Table 2, preferred hydrophilic surfactants include PEG-8 laurate, PEG-8 oleate, PEG-8 stearate, PEG-9 oleate, PEG-10 laurate, PEG-10 oleate, PEG-12 laurate, PEG-12 oleate, PEG-15 oleate, PEG-20 laurate and PEG-20 oleate. Examples of polyethoxylated fatty acid monoester surfactants commercially available are shown in Table 2.

10 Table 2: PEG-Fatty Acid Monoester Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
PEG 4-100 monolaurate	Crodet L series (Croda)	>9
PEG 4-100 monooleate	Crodet O series (Croda)	>8
15 PEG 4-100 monostearate	Crodet S series (Croda), Myrj Series (Atlas/ICI)	>6
PEG 400 distearate	Cithrol 4DS series (Croda)	>10
PEG 100,200,300 monolaurate	Cithrol ML series (Croda)	>10
PEG 100,200,300 monooleate	Cithrol MO series (Croda)	>10
20 PEG 400 dioleate	Cithrol 4DO series (Croda)	>10
PEG 400-1000 monostearate	Cithrol MS series (Croda)	>10
PEG-1 stearate	Nikkol MYS-1EX (Nikko), Coster K1 (Condea)	2
25 PEG-2 stearate	Nikkol MYS-2 (Nikko)	4
PEG-2 oleate	Nikkol MYO-2 (Nikko)	4.5
PEG-4 laurate	Mapeg® 200 ML (PPG), Kessco® PEG 200ML (Stepan), LIPOPEG 2L (LIPO Chem.)	9.3
PEG-4 oleate	Mapeg® 200 MO (PPG), Kessco® PEG200 MO (Stepan),	8.3
30 PEG-4 stearate	Kessco® PEG 200 MS (Stepan), Hodag 20 S (Calgene), Nikkol MYS-4 (Nikko)	6.5

15

1	PEG-5 stearate	Nikkol TMGS-5 (Nikko)	9.5
	PEG-5 oleate	Nikkol TMGO-5 (Nikko)	9.5
	PEG-6 oleate	Algon OL 60 (Auschem SpA), Kessco® PEG 300 MO (Stepan), Nikkol MYO-6 (Nikko), Emulgante A6 (Condea)	8.5
5			
	PEG-7 oleate	Algon OL 70 (Auschem SpA)	10.4
	PEG-6 laurate	Kessco® PEG300 ML (Stepan)	11.4
	PEG-7 laurate	Lauridac 7 (Condea)	13
10	PEG-6 stearate	Kessco® PEG300 MS (Stepan)	9.7
	PEG-8 laurate	Mapeg® 400 ML (PPG), LIPOPEG 4DL(Lipo Chem.)	13
	PEG-8 oleate	Mapeg® 400 MO (PPG), Emulgante A8 (Condea); Kessco PEG 400 MO (Stepan)	12
15	PEG-8 stearate	Mapeg® 400 MS (PPG), Myrj 45	12
	PEG-9 oleate	Emulgante A9 (Condea)	>10
	PEG-9 stearate	Cremophor S9 (BASF)	>10
	PEG-10 laurate	Nikkol MYL-10 (Nikko), Lauridac 10 (Croda)	13
20	PEG-10 oleate	Nikkol MYO-10 (Nikko)	11
	PEG-10 stearate	Nikkol MYS-10 (Nikko), Coster K100 (Condea)	11
	PEG-12 laurate	Kessco® PEG 600ML (Stepan)	15
	PEG-12 oleate	Kessco® PEG 600MO (Stepan)	14
25	PEG-12 ricinoleate	(CAS # 9004-97-1)	>10
	PEG-12 stearate	Mapeg® 600 MS (PPG), Kessco® PEG 600MS (Stepan)	14
	PEG-15 stearate	Nikkol TMGS-15 (Nikko), Koster K15 (Condea)	14
	PEG-15 oleate	Nikkol TMGO-15 (Nikko)	15
30	PEG-20 laurate	Kessco® PEG 1000 ML (Stepan)	17
	PEG-20 oleate	Kessco® PEG 1000 MO (Stepan)	15

1	PEG-20 stearate	Mapeg® 1000 MS (PPG), Kessco® PEG 1000 MS (Stepan), Myrj 49	16
	PEG-25 stearate	Nikkol MYS-25 (Nikko)	15
5	PEG-32 laurate	Kessco® PEG 1540 ML (Stepan)	16
	PEG-32 oleate	Kessco® PEG 1540 MO (Stepan)	17
	PEG-32 stearate	Kessco® PEG 1540 MS (Stepan)	17
	PEG-30 stearate	Myrj 51	>10
10	PEG-40 laurate	Crodet L40 (Croda)	17.9
	PEG-40 oleate	Crodet O40 (Croda)	17.4
	PEG-40 stearate	Myrj 52, Emerest® 2715 (Henkel), Nikkol MYS-40 (Nikko)	>10
	PEG-45 stearate	Nikkol MYS-45 (Nikko)	18
15	PEG-50 stearate	Myrj 53	>10
	PEG-55 stearate	Nikkol MYS-55 (Nikko)	18
	PEG-100 oleate	Crodet O-100 (Croda)	18.8
	PEG-100 stearate	Myrj 59, Arlacel 165 (ICI)	19
20	PEG-200 oleate	Albunol 200 MO (Taiwan Surf.)	>10
	PEG-400 oleate	LACTOMUL (Henkel), Albunol 400 MO (Taiwan Surf.)	>10
	PEG-600 oleate	Albunol 600 MO (Taiwan Surf.)	>10

25 2.2 PEG-Fatty Acid Diesters

Polyethylene glycol (PEG) fatty acid diesters are also suitable for use as surfactants in the compositions of the present invention. Among the surfactants in Table 3, preferred hydrophilic surfactants include PEG-20 dilaurate, PEG-20 dioleate, PEG-20 distearate, PEG-32 dilaurate and PEG-32 dioleate. Representative PEG-fatty acid diesters are shown in Table 3.

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Table 3: PEG-Fatty Acid Diester Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
PEG-4 dilaurate	Mapeg® 200 DL (PPG), Kessco® PEG 200 DL (Stepan), LIPOPEG 2-DL (Lipo Chem.)	7
PEG-4 dioleate	Mapeg® 200 DO (PPG),	6
PEG-4 distearate	Kessco® 200 DS (Stepan)	5
PEG-6 dilaurate	Kessco® PEG 300 DL (Stepan)	9.8
PEG-6 dioleate	Kessco® PEG 300 DO (Stepan)	7.2
PEG-6 distearate	Kessco® PEG 300 DS (Stepan)	6.5
PEG-8 dilaurate	Mapeg® 400 DL (PPG), Kessco® PEG 400 DL (Stepan), LIPOPEG 4 DL (Lipo Chem.)	11
PEG-8 dioleate	Mapeg® 400 DO (PPG), Kessco® PEG 400 DO (Stepan), LIPOPEG 4 DO(Lipo Chem.)	8.8
PEG-8 distearate	Mapeg® 400 DS (PPG), CDS 400 (Nikkol)	11
PEG-10 dipalmitate	Polyaldo 2PKFG	>10
PEG-12 dilaurate	Kessco® PEG 600 DL (Stepan)	11.7
PEG-12 distearate	Kessco® PEG 600 DS (Stepan)	10.7
PEG-12 dioleate	Mapeg® 600 DO (PPG), Kessco® 600 DO(Stepan)	10
PEG-20 dilaurate	Kessco® PEG 1000 DL (Stepan)	15
PEG-20 dioleate	Kessco® PEG 1000 DO (Stepan)	13
PEG-20 distearate	Kessco® PEG 1000 DS (Stepan)	12
PEG-32 dilaurate	Kessco® PEG 1540 DL (Stepan)	16
PEG-32 dioleate	Kessco® PEG 1540 DO (Stepan)	15
PEG-32 distearate	Kessco® PEG 1540 DS (Stepan)	15
PEG-400 dioleate	Cithrol 4DO series (Croda)	>10

1	PEG-400 distearate	Cithrol 4DS series (Croda)	>10
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2.3 PEG-Fatty Acid Mono- and Di-ester Mixtures

5 In general, mixtures of surfactants are also useful in the present invention, including mixtures of two or more commercial surfactant products. Several PEG-fatty acid esters are marketed commercially as mixtures or mono- and diesters. Representative surfactant mixtures are shown in Table 4.

10 Table 4: PEG-Fatty Acid Mono- and Diester Mixtures

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
PEG 4-150 mono, dilaurate	Kessco® PEG 200-6000 mono, dilaurate (Stepan)	
PEG 4-150 mono, dioleate	Kessco® PEG 200-6000 mono, dioleate (Stepan)	
15 PEG 4-150 mono, distearate	Kessco® 200-6000 mono, distearate (Stepan)	

2.4 Polyethylene Glycol Glycerol Fatty Acid Esters

Suitable PEG glycerol fatty acid esters are shown in Table 5. Among the surfactants in the Table, preferred hydrophilic surfactants are PEG-20 glycercyl laurate, 20 PEG-30 glycercyl laurate, PEG-40 glycercyl laurate, PEG-20 glycercyl oleate, and PEG-30 glycercyl oleate.

Table 5: PEG Glycerol Fatty Acid Esters

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
25 PEG-20 glycercyl laurate	Tagat® L (Goldschmidt)	16
PEG-30 glycercyl laurate	Tagat® L2 (Goldschmidt)	16
PEG-15 glycercyl laurate	Glycerox L series (Croda)	15
30 PEG-40 glycercyl laurate	Glycerox L series (Croda)	15
PEG-20 glycercyl stearate	Capmul® EMG (ABITEC), Aldo® MS-20 KFG (Lonza)	13
PEG-20 glycercyl oleate	Tagat® O (Goldschmidt)	>10

1	PEG-30 glyceryl oleate	Tagat® O2 (Goldschmidt)	>10
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2.5. Alcohol - Oil Transesterification Products

A large number of surfactants of different degrees of hydrophobicity or hydrophilicity can be prepared by reaction of alcohols or polyalcohols with a variety of natural and/or hydrogenated oils. Most commonly, the oils used are castor oil or hydrogenated castor oil, or an edible vegetable oil such as corn oil, olive oil, peanut oil, palm kernel oil, apricot kernel oil, or almond oil. Preferred alcohols include glycerol, propylene glycol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, and pentaerythritol.

Among these alcohol-oil transesterified surfactants, preferred hydrophilic surfactants are PEG-35 castor oil (Incrocas-35), PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil (Cremophor RH 40), PEG-25 trioleate (TAGAT® TO), PEG-60 corn glycerides (Crovol M70), PEG-60 almond oil (Crovol A70), PEG-40 palm kernel oil (Crovol PK70), PEG-50 castor oil (Emalex C-50), PEG-50 hydrogenated castor oil (Emalex HC-50), PEG-8 caprylic/capric glycerides (Labrasol), and PEG-6 caprylic/capric glycerides (Softigen 767). Preferred hydrophobic surfactants in this class include PEG-5 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-7 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-9 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-6 corn oil (Labrafil® M 2125 CS), PEG-6 almond oil (Labrafil® M 1966 CS), PEG-6 apricot kernel oil (Labrafil® M 1944 CS), PEG-6 olive oil (Labrafil® M 1980 CS), PEG-6 peanut oil (Labrafil® M 1969 CS), PEG-6 hydrogenated palm kernel oil (Labrafil® M 2130 BS), PEG-6 palm kernel oil (Labrafil® M 2130 CS), PEG-6 triolein (Labrafil® M 2735 CS), PEG-8 corn oil (Labrafil® WL 2609 BS), PEG-20 corn glycerides (Crovol M40), and PEG-20 almond glycerides (Crovol A40). The latter two surfactants are reported to have HLB values of 10, which is generally considered to be the approximate border line between hydrophilic and hydrophobic surfactants. For purposes of the present invention, these two surfactants are considered to be hydrophobic. Representative surfactants of this class suitable for use in the present invention are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Transesterification Products of Oils and Alcohols

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
PEG-3 castor oil	Nikkol CO-3 (Nikko)	3

20

1	PEG-5, 9, and 16 castor oil	ACCONON CA series (ABITEC)	6-7
	PEG-20 castor oil	Emalex C-20 (Nihon Emulsion), Nikkol CO-20 TX (Nikko)	11
	PEG-23 castor oil	Emulgante EL23	>10
5	PEG-30 castor oil	Emalex C-30 (Nihon Emulsion), Alkamuls® EL 620 (Rhone-Poulenc), Incrocas 30 (Croda)	11
	PEG-35 castor oil	Cremophor EL and EL-P (BASF), Emulphor EL, Incrocas-35 (Croda), Emulgin RO 35 (Henkel)	
10	PEG-38 castor oil	Emulgante EL 65 (Condea)	
	PEG-40 castor oil	Emalex C-40 (Nihon Emulsion), Alkamuls® EL 719 (Rhone-Poulenc)	13
	PEG-50 castor oil	Emalex C-50 (Nihon Emulsion)	14
15	PEG-56 castor oil	Eumulgin® PRT 56 (Pulcra SA)	>10
	PEG-60 castor oil	Nikkol CO-60TX (Nikko)	14
	PEG-100 castor oil	Thornley	>10
	PEG-200 castor oil	Eumulgin® PRT 200 (Pulcra SA)	>10
20	PEG-5 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-5 (Nikko)	6
	PEG-7 hydrogenated castor oil	Simusol® 989 (Seppic), Cremophor WO7 (BASF)	6
	PEG-10 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-10 (Nikko)	6.5
	PEG-20 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-20 (Nikko)	11
25	PEG-25 hydrogenated castor oil	Simulsol® 1292 (Seppic), Cerex ELS 250 (Auschem SpA)	11
	PEG-30 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-30 (Nikko)	11
	PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil	Cremophor RH 40 (BASF), Croduret (Croda), Emulgin HRE 40 (Henkel)	13
30	PEG-45 hydrogenated castor oil	Cerex ELS 450 (Auschem SpA)	14
	PEG-50 hydrogenated castor oil	Emalex HC-50 (Nihon Emulsion)	14
	PEG-60 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-60 (Nikko); Cremophor RH 60 (BASF)	15

1	PEG-80 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO-80 (Nikko)	15
	PEG-100 hydrogenated castor oil	Nikkol HCO -100 (Nikko)	17
5	PEG-6 corn oil	Labrafil® M 2125 CS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-6 almond oil	Labrafil® M 1966 CS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-6 apricot kernel oil	Labrafil® M 1944 CS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-6 olive oil	Labrafil® M 1980 CS (Gattefosse)	4
10	PEG-6 peanut oil	Labrafil® M 1969 CS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-6 hydrogenated palm kernel oil	Labrafil® M 2130 BS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-6 palm kernel oil	Labrafil® M 2130 CS (Gattefosse)	4
15	PEG-6 triolein	Labrafil® M 2735 CS (Gattefosse)	4
	PEG-8 corn oil	Labrafil® WL 2609 BS (Gattefosse)	6-7
	PEG-20 corn glycerides	Crovol M40 (Croda)	10
	PEG-20 almond glycerides	Crovol A40 (Croda)	10
20	PEG-25 trioleate	TAGAT® TO (Goldschmidt)	11
	PEG-40 palm kernel oil	Crovol PK-70	>10
	PEG-60 corn glycerides	Crovol M70(Croda)	15
	PEG-60 almond glycerides	Crovol A70 (Croda)	15
25	PEG-4 caprylic/capric triglyceride	Labrafac® Hydro (Gattefosse),	4-5
	PEG-8 caprylic/capric glycerides	Labrasol (Gattefosse),Labrafac CM 10 (Gattefosse)	>10
	PEG-6 caprylic/capric glycerides	SOFTIGEN® 767 (Hüls), Glycerox 767 (Croda)	19
30	Lauroyl macrogol-32 glyceride	GELUCIRE 44/14 (Gattefosse)	14
	Stearoyl macrogol glyceride	GELUCIRE 50/13 (Gattefosse)	13

1	Mono, di, tri, tetra esters of vegetable oils and sorbitol	SorbitoGlyceride (Gattefosse)	<10
	Pentaerythrityl tetraisostearate	Crodamol PTIS (Croda)	<10
5	Pentaerythrityl distearate	Albunol DS (Taiwan Surf.)	<10
	Pentaerythrityl tetraoleate	Liponate PO-4 (Lipo Chem.)	<10
	Pentaerythrityl tetrastearate	Liponate PS-4 (Lipo Chem.)	<10
	Pentaerythrityl tetracaprylate/tetracaprate	Liponate PE-810 (Lipo Chem.), Crodamol PTC (Croda)	<10
10	Pentaerythrityl tetraoctanoate	Nikkol Pentarate 408 (Nikko)	

Also included as oils in this category of surfactants are oil-soluble vitamins, such as vitamins A, D, E, K, etc. Thus, derivatives of these vitamins, such as tocopheryl PEG-15 1000 succinate (TPGS, available from Eastman), are also suitable surfactants.

2.6. Polyglycerized Fatty Acids

Polyglycerol esters of fatty acids are also suitable surfactants for the present invention. Among the polyglyceryl fatty acid esters, preferred hydrophobic surfactants include polyglyceryl oleate (Plurol Oleique), polyglyceryl-2 dioleate (Nikkol DGDO), and polyglyceryl-10 trioleate. Preferred hydrophilic surfactants include polyglyceryl-10 laurate (Nikkol Decaglyn 1-L), polyglyceryl-10 oleate (Nikkol Decaglyn 1-O), and polyglyceryl-10 mono, dioleate (Caprol® PEG 860). Polyglyceryl polyricinoleates (Polymuls) are also preferred hydrophilic and hydrophobic surfactants. Examples of suitable polyglyceryl esters are shown in Table 7.

25

Table 7: Polyglycerized Fatty Acids

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Polyglyceryl-2 stearate	Nikkol DGMS (Nikko)	5-7
30 Polyglyceryl-2 oleate	Nikkol DGMO (Nikko)	5-7
Polyglyceryl-2 isostearate	Nikkol DGMIS (Nikko)	5-7

1	Polyglyceryl-3 oleate	Caprol® 3GO (ABITEC), Drewpol 3-1-O (Stepan)	6.5
	Polyglyceryl-4 oleate	Nikkol Tetraglyn 1-O (Nikko)	5-7
	Polyglyceryl-4 stearate	Nikkol Tetraglyn 1-S (Nikko)	5-6
5	Polyglyceryl-6 oleate	Drewpol 6-1-O (Stepan), Nikkol Hexaglyn 1-O (Nikko)	9
	Polyglyceryl-10 laurate	Nikkol Decaglyn 1-L (Nikko)	15
	Polyglyceryl-10 oleate	Nikkol Decaglyn 1-O (Nikko)	14
	Polyglyceryl-10 stearate	Nikkol Decaglyn 1-S (Nikko)	12
10	Polyglyceryl-6 ricinoleate	Nikkol Hexaglyn PR-15 (Nikko)	>8
	Polyglyceryl-10 linoleate	Nikkol Decaglyn 1-LN (Nikko)	12
	Polyglyceryl-6 pentaoleate	Nikkol Hexaglyn 5-O (Nikko)	<10
15	Polyglyceryl-3 dioleate	Cremophor GO32 (BASF)	<10
	Polyglyceryl-3 distearate	Cremophor GS32 (BASF)	<10
	Polyglyceryl-4 pentaoleate	Nikkol Tetraglyn 5-O (Nikko)	<10
	Polyglyceryl-6 dioleate	Caprol® 6G20 (ABITEC); Hodag PGO-62 (Calgene), PLUROL OLEIQUE CC 497 (Gattefosse)	8.5
20	Polyglyceryl-2 dioleate	Nikkol DGDO (Nikko)	7
	Polyglyceryl-10 trioleate	Nikkol Decaglyn 3-O (Nikko)	7
	Polyglyceryl-10 pentaoleate	Nikkol Decaglyn 5-O (Nikko)	3.5
25	Polyglyceryl-10 septaoleate	Nikkol Decaglyn 7-O (Nikko)	3
	Polyglyceryl-10 tetraoleate	Caprol® 10G4O (ABITEC); Hodag PGO-62 (CALGENE), Drewpol 10-4-O (Stepan)	6.2
	Polyglyceryl-10 decaisostearate	Nikkol Decaglyn 10-IS (Nikko)	<10
30	Polyglyceryl-10 decaoleate	Drewpol 10-10-O (Stepan), Caprol 10G10O (ABITEC), Nikkol Decaglyn 10-O	3.5
	Polyglyceryl-10 mono, dioleate	Caprol® PGE 860 (ABITEC)	11

1	Polyglyceryl polyricinoleate	Polymuls (Henkel)	3-20
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2.7. Propylene Glycol Fatty Acid Esters

5 Esters of propylene glycol and fatty acids are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. In this surfactant class, preferred hydrophobic surfactants include propylene glycol monolaurate (Lauroglycol FCC), propylene glycol ricinoleate (Propymuls), propylene glycol monooleate (Myverol P-O6), propylene glycol dicaprylate/dicaprate (Captex® 200), and propylene glycol dioctanoate (Captex® 800).
10 Examples of surfactants of this class are given in Table 8.

Table 8: Propylene Glycol Fatty Acid Esters

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Propylene glycol monocaprylate	Capryol 90 (Gattefosse), Nikkol Sefsol 218 (Nikko)	<10
15 Propylene glycol monolaurate	Lauroglycol 90 (Gattefosse), Lauroglycol FCC (Gattefosse)	<10
Propylene glycol oleate	Lutrol OP2000 (BASF)	<10
Propylene glycol myristate	Mirply	<10
20 Propylene glycol monostearate	ADM PGME-03 (ADM), LIPO PGMS (Lipo Chem.), Aldo® PGHMS (Lonza)	3-4
Propylene glycol hydroxy stearate		<10
Propylene glycol ricinoleate	PROPYMULS (Henkel)	<10
Propylene glycol isostearate		<10
25 Propylene glycol monooleate	Myverol P-O6 (Eastman)	<10
Propylene glycol dicaprylate/dicaprate	Captex® 200 (ABITEC), Miglyol® 840 (Hüls), Neobee® M-20 (Stepan)	>6
Propylene glycol dioctanoate	Captex® 800 (ABITEC)	>6
30 Propylene glycol caprylate/caprate	LABRAFAC PG (Gattefosse)	>6

1	Propylene glycol dilaurate	>6	
	Propylene glycol distearate	Kessco® PGDS (Stepan)	>6
	Propylene glycol dicaprylate	Nikkol Sefsol 228 (Nikko)	>6
5	Propylene glycol dicaprate	Nikkol PDD (Nikko)	>6

2.8. Mixtures of Propylene Glycol Esters - Glycerol Esters

In general, mixtures of surfactants are also suitable for use in the present invention.

10 In particular, mixtures of propylene glycol fatty acid esters and glycerol fatty acid esters are suitable and are commercially available. One preferred mixture is composed of the oleic acid esters of propylene glycol and glycerol (Arlacel 186). Examples of these surfactants are shown in Table 9.

15 Table 9: Glycerol/Propylene Glycol Fatty Acid Esters

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Oleic	ATMOS 300, ARLACEL 186 (ICI)	3-4
Stearic	ATMOS 150	3-4

20 2.9. Mono- and Diglycerides

A particularly important class of surfactants is the class of mono- and diglycerides. These surfactants are generally hydrophobic. Preferred hydrophobic surfactants in this class of compounds include glyceryl monooleate (Peceol), glyceryl ricinoleate, glyceryl laurate, glyceryl dilaurate (Capmul® GDL), glyceryl dioleate (Capmul® GDO), glyceryl mono/dioleate (Capmul® GMO-K), glyceryl caprylate/caprate (Capmul® MCM), caprylic acid mono/diglycerides (Imwitor® 988), and mono- and diacetylated monoglycerides (Myvacet® 9-45). Examples of these surfactants are given in Table 10.

1

Table 10: Mono- and Diglyceride Surfactants

	COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
	Monopalmitolein (C16:1)	(Larodan)	<10
5	Monoelaidin (C18:1)	(Larodan)	<10
	Monocaproin (C6)	(Larodan)	<10
	Monocaprylin	(Larodan)	<10
	Monocaprin	(Larodan)	<10
10	Monolaurin	(Larodan)	<10
	Glyceryl monomyristate (C14)	Nikkol MGM (Nikko)	3-4
	Glyceryl monooleate (C18:1)	PECEOL (Gattefosse), Hodag GMO-D, Nikkol MGO (Nikko)	3-4
15	Glyceryl monooleate	RYLO series (Danisco), DIMODAN series (Danisco), EMULDAN (Danisco), ALDO® MO FG (Lonza), Kessco GMO (Stepan), MONOMULS® series (Henkel), TEGIN O, DREWMULSE GMO (Stepan), Atlas G-695 (ICI), GMOrphic 80 (Eastman), ADM DMG-40, 70, and 100 (ADM), Myverol (Eastman)	3-4
	Glycerol monooleate/linoleate	OLICINE (Gattefosse)	3-4
20	Glycerol monolinoleate	Maisine (Gattefosse), MYVEROL 18-92, Myverol 18-06 (Eastman)	3-4
	Glyceryl ricinoleate	Softigen® 701 (Hüls), HODAG GMR-D (Calgene), ALDO® MR (Lonza)	6
	Glyceryl monolaurate	ALDO® MLD (Lonza), Hodag GML (Calgene)	6.8
25	Glycerol monopalmitate	Emalex GMS-P (Nihon)	4
	Glycerol monostearate	Capmul® GMS (ABITEC), Myvaplex (Eastman), IMWITOR® 191 (Hüls), CUTINA GMS, Aldo® MS (Lonza), Nikkol MGS series (Nikko)	5-9
30	Glyceryl mono-,dioleate	Capmul® GMO-K (ABITEC)	<10
	Glyceryl palmitic/stearic	CUTINA MD-A, ESTAGEL-G18	<10
	Glyceryl acetate	Lamegin® EE (Grünaau GmbH)	<10

1	Glyceryl laurate	Imwitor® 312 (Hüls), Monomuls® 90-45 (Grünau GmbH), Aldo® MLD (Lonza)	4
	Glyceryl citrate/lactate/oleate/ linoleate	Imwitor® 375 (Hüls)	<10
5	Glyceryl caprylate	Imwitor® 308 (Hüls), Capmul® MCMC8 (ABITEC)	5-6
	Glyceryl caprylate/caprate	Capmul® MCM (ABITEC)	5-6
	Caprylic acid mono,diglycerides	Imwitor® 988 (Hüls)	5-6
10	Caprylic/capric glycerides	Imwitor® 742 (Hüls)	<10
	Mono-and diacetylated monoglycerides	Myvacet® 9-45, Myvacet® 9-40, Myvacet® 9-08 (Eastman), Lamegin® (Grünau)	3.8-4
	Glyceryl monostearate	Aldo® MS, Arlacel 129 (ICI), LIPO GMS (Lipo Chem.), Imwitor® 191 (Hüls), Myvaplex (Eastman)	4.4
15	Lactic acid esters of mono,diglycerides	LAMEGIN GLP (Henkel)	<10
	Dicaproin (C6)	(Larodan)	<10
	Dicaprin (C10)	(Larodan)	<10
20	Dioctanoin (C8)	(Larodan)	<10
	Dimyristin (C14)	(Larodan)	<10
	Dipalmitin (C16)	(Larodan)	<10
	Distearin	(Larodan)	<10
25	Glyceryl dilaurate (C12)	Capmul® GDL (ABITEC)	3-4
	Glyceryl dioleate	Capmul® GDO (ABITEC)	3-4
	Glycerol esters of fatty acids	GELUCIRE 39/01 (Gattefosse), GELUCIRE 43/01 (Gattefosse)	1
		GELUCIRE 37/06 (Gattefosse)	6
30	Dipalmitolein (C16:1)	(Larodan)	<10
	1,2 and 1,3-diolein (C18:1)	(Larodan)	<10

1	Dielaidin (C18:1)	(Larodan)	<10
	Dilinolein (C18:2)	(Larodan)	<10

5 2.10. Sterol and Sterol Derivatives

Sterols and derivatives of sterols are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. These surfactants can be hydrophilic or hydrophobic. Preferred derivatives include the polyethylene glycol derivatives. A preferred hydrophobic surfactant in this class is cholesterol. A preferred hydrophilic surfactant in this class is PEG-24 cholesterol ether (Solulan C-24). Examples of surfactants of this class are shown in Table 11.

Table 11: Sterol and Sterol Derivative Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Cholesterol, sitosterol, lanosterol		<10
15 PEG-24 cholesterol ether	Solulan C-24 (Amerchol)	>10
PEG-30 cholestanol	Nikkol DHC (Nikko)	>10
Phytosterol	GENEROL series (Henkel)	<10
20 PEG-25 phyto sterol	Nikkol BPSH-25 (Nikko)	>10
PEG-5 soya sterol	Nikkol BPS-5 (Nikko)	<10
PEG-10 soya sterol	Nikkol BPS-10 (Nikko)	<10
PEG-20 soya sterol	Nikkol BPS-20 (Nikko)	<10
25 PEG-30 soya sterol	Nikkol BPS-30 (Nikko)	>10

2.11. Polyethylene Glycol Sorbitan Fatty Acid Esters

A variety of PEG-sorbitan fatty acid esters are available and are suitable for use as surfactants in the present invention. In general, these surfactants are hydrophilic, although several hydrophobic surfactants of this class can be used. Among the PEG-sorbitan fatty acid esters, preferred hydrophilic surfactants include PEG-20 sorbitan monolaurate (Tween-20), PEG-20 sorbitan monopalmitate (Tween-40), PEG-20 sorbitan monostearate

- 1 (Tween-60), and PEG-20 sorbitan monooleate (Tween-80). Examples of these surfactants
are shown in Table 12.

Table 12: PEG-Sorbitan Fatty Acid Esters

5	COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
	PEG-10 sorbitan laurate	Liposorb L-10 (Lipo Chem.)	>10
	PEG-20 sorbitan monoaurate	Tween-20 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 1 (Croda), DACOL MLS 20 (Condea)	17
10	PEG-4 sorbitan monolaurate	Tween-21 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 11 (Croda)	13
	PEG-80 sorbitan monolaurate	Hodag PSML-80 (Calgene); T-Maz 28	>10
	PEG-6 sorbitan monolaurate	Nikkol GL-1 (Nikko)	16
	PEG-20 sorbitan monopalmitate	Tween-40 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 2 (Croda)	16
15	PEG-20 sorbitan monostearate	Tween-60 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 3 (Croda)	15
	PEG-4 sorbitan monostearate	Tween-61 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 31 (Croda)	9.6
	PEG-8 sorbitan monostearate	DACOL MSS (Condea)	>10
	PEG-6 sorbitan monostearate	Nikkol TS106 (Nikko)	11
20	PEG-20 sorbitan tristearate	Tween-65 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 35 (Croda)	11
	PEG-6 sorbitan tetrastearate	Nikkol GS-6 (Nikko)	3
	PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate	Nikkol GS-460 (Nikko)	13
	PEG-5 sorbitan monooleate	Tween-81 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 41 (Croda)	10
25	PEG-6 sorbitan monooleate	Nikkol TO-106 (Nikko)	10
	PEG-20 sorbitan monooleate	Tween-80 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 4 (Croda)	15
	PEG-40 sorbitan oleate	Emalex ET 8040 (Nihon Emulsion)	18
	PEG-20 sorbitan trioleate	Tween-85 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 45 (Croda)	11
30	PEG-6 sorbitan tetraoleate	Nikkol GO-4 (Nikko)	8.5
	PEG-30 sorbitan tetraoleate	Nikkol GO-430 (Nikko)	12

30

1	PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate	Nikkol GO-440 (Nikko)	13
	PEG-20 sorbitan monoisostearate	Tween-120 (Atlas/ICI), Crillet 6 (Croda)	>10
5	PEG sorbitol hexaoleate	Atlas G-1086 (ICI)	10
	PEG-6 sorbitol hexastearate	Nikkol GS-6 (Nikko)	3

2.12. Polyethylene Glycol Alkyl Ethers

Ethers of polyethylene glycol and alkyl alcohols are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. Preferred hydrophobic ethers include PEG-3 oleyl ether (Volpo 3) and PEG-4 lauryl ether (Brij 30). Examples of these surfactants are shown in Table 13.

Table 13: Polyethylene Glycol Alkyl Ethers

	COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
15	PEG-2 oleyl ether,oleth-2	Brij 92/93 (Atlas/ICI)	4.9
	PEG-3 oleyl ether,oleth-3	Volpo 3 (Croda)	<10
	PEG-5 oleyl ether,oleth-5	Volpo 5 (Croda)	<10
20	PEG-10 oleyl ether,oleth-10	Volpo 10 (Croda), Brij 96/97 (Atlas/ICI)	12
	PEG-20 oleyl ether,oleth-20	Volpo 20 (Croda), Brij 98/99 (Atlas/ICI)	15
	PEG-4 lauryl ether, laureth-4	Brij 30 (Atlas/ICI)	9.7
	PEG-9 lauryl ether		>10
25	PEG-23 lauryl ether, laureth-23	Brij 35 (Atlas/ICI)	17
	PEG-2 cetyl ether	Brij 52 (ICI)	5.3
	PEG-10 cetyl ether	Brij 56 (ICI)	13
	PEG-20 cetyl ether	Brij 58 (ICI)	16
30	PEG-2 stearyl ether	Brij 72 (ICI)	4.9
	PEG-10 stearyl ether	Brij 76 (ICI)	12

1	PEG-20 stearyl ether	Brij 78 (ICI)	15
	PEG-100 stearyl ether	Brij 700 (ICI)	>10

5 2.13. Sugar Esters

Esters of sugars are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. Preferred hydrophilic surfactants in this class include sucrose monopalmitate and sucrose monolaurate. Examples of such surfactants are shown in Table 14.

10 Table 14: Sugar Ester Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Sucrose distearate	SUCRO ESTER 7 (Gattefosse), Crodesta F-10 (Croda)	3
Sucrose distearate/monostearate	SUCRO ESTER 11 (Gattefosse), Crodesta F-110 (Croda)	12
15 Sucrose dipalmitate		7.4
Sucrose monostearate	Crodesta F-160 (Croda)	15
Sucrose monopalmitate	SUCRO ESTER 15 (Gattefosse)	>10
Sucrose monolaurate	Saccharose monolaurate 1695 (Mitsubishi-Kasei)	15

20 2.14. Polyethylene Glycol Alkyl Phenols

Several hydrophilic PEG-alkyl phenol surfactants are available, and are suitable for use in the present invention. Examples of these surfactants are shown in Table 15.

25 Table 15: Polyethylene Glycol Alkyl Phenol Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
PEG-10-100 nonyl phenol	Triton X series (Rohm & Haas), Igepal CA series (GAF, USA), Antarox CA series (GAF, UK)	>10
30 PEG-15-100 octyl phenol ether	Triton N-series (Rohm & Haas), Igepal CO series (GAF, USA), Antarox CO series (GAF, UK)	>10

1 2.15. Polyoxyethylene-Polyoxypropylene Block Copolymers

The POE-POP block copolymers are a unique class of polymeric surfactants. The unique structure of the surfactants, with hydrophilic POE and hydrophobic POP moieties in well-defined ratios and positions, provides a wide variety of surfactants suitable for use
5 in the present invention. These surfactants are available under various trade names, including Synperonic PE series (ICI); Pluronic® series (BASF), Emkalyx, Lutrol (BASF), Supronic, Monolan, Pluracare, and Plurodac. The generic term for these polymers is “poloxamer” (CAS 9003-11-6). These polymers have the formula:



10 where “a” and “b” denote the number of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene units, respectively.

Preferred hydrophilic surfactants of this class include Poloxamers 108, 188, 217, 238, 288, 338, and 407. Preferred hydrophobic surfactants in this class include Poloxamers 124, 182, 183, 212, 331, and 335.

15 Examples of suitable surfactants of this class are shown in Table 16. Since the compounds are widely available, commercial sources are not listed in the Table. The compounds are listed by generic name, with the corresponding “a” and “b” values.

Table 16: POE-POP Block Copolymers

20 COMPOUND	a, b values in $\text{HO}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_a(\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O})_b(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O})_a\text{H}$	HLB
Poloxamer 105	a = 11 b = 16	8
Poloxamer 108	a = 46 b = 16	>10
Poloxamer 122	a = 5 b = 21	3
25 Poloxamer 123	a = 7 b = 21	7
Poloxamer 124	a = 11 b = 21	>7
Poloxamer 181	a = 3 b = 30	
Poloxamer 182	a = 8 b = 30	2
30 Poloxamer 183	a = 10 b = 30	
Poloxamer 184	a = 13 b = 30	

1	Poloxamer 185	a = 19 b = 30	
	Poloxamer 188	a = 75 b = 30	29
	Poloxamer 212	a = 8 b = 35	
5	Poloxamer 215	a = 24 b = 35	
	Poloxamer 217	a = 52 b = 35	
	Poloxamer 231	a = 16 b = 39	
	Poloxamer 234	a = 22 b = 39	
10	Poloxamer 235	a = 27 b = 39	
	Poloxamer 237	a = 62 b = 39	24
	Poloxamer 238	a = 97 b = 39	
	Poloxamer 282	a = 10 b = 47	
15	Poloxamer 284	a = 21 b = 47	
	Poloxamer 288	a = 122 b = 47	>10
	Poloxamer 331	a = 7 b = 54	0.5
	Poloxamer 333	a = 20 b = 54	
20	Poloxamer 334	a = 31 b = 54	
	Poloxamer 335	a = 38 b = 54	
	Poloxamer 338	a = 128 b = 54	
	Poloxamer 401	a = 6 b = 67	
	Poloxamer 402	a = 13 b = 67	
25	Poloxamer 403	a = 21 b = 67	
	Poloxamer 407	a = 98 b = 67	

2.16. Sorbitan Fatty Acid Esters

30 Sorbitan esters of fatty acids are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. Among these esters, preferred hydrophobic surfactants include sorbitan monolaurate (Arlacel 20), sorbitan monopalmitate (Span-40), sorbitan monooleate (Span-

- 1 80), sorbitan monostearate, and sorbitan tristearate. Examples of these surfactants are shown in Table 17.

Table 17: Sorbitan Fatty Acid Ester Surfactants

5	COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Sorbitan monolaurate	Span-20 (Atlas/ICI), Crill 1 (Croda), Arlacel 20 (ICI)	8.6	
Sorbitan monopalmitate	Span-40 (Atlas/ICI), Crill 2 (Croda), Nikkol SP-10 (Nikko)	6.7	
10 Sorbitan monooleate	Span-80 (Atlas/ICI), Crill 4 (Croda), Crill 50 (Croda)	4.3	
Sorbitan monostearate	Span-60 (Atlas/ICI), Crill 3 (Croda), Nikkol SS-10 (Nikko)	4.7	
Sorbitan trioleate	Span-85 (Atlas/ICI), Crill 45 (Croda), Nikkol SO-30 (Nikko)	4.3	
15 Sorbitan sesquioleate	Arlacel-C (ICI), Crill 43 (Croda), Nikkol SO-15 (Nikko)	3.7	
Sorbitan tristearate	Span-65 (Atlas/ICI) Crill 35 (Croda), Nikkol SS-30 (Nikko)	2.1	
Sorbitan monoisostearate	Crill 6 (Croda), Nikkol SI-10 (Nikko)	4.7	
20 Sorbitan sesquistearate	Nikkol SS-15 (Nikko)	4.2	

2.17. Lower Alcohol Fatty Acid Esters

20 Esters of lower alcohols (C_2 to C_4) and fatty acids (C_8 to C_{18}) are suitable surfactants for use in the present invention. Among these esters, preferred hydrophobic surfactants include ethyl oleate (Crodamol EO), isopropyl myristate (Crodamol IPM), and isopropyl palmitate (Crodamol IPP). Examples of these surfactants are shown in Table 18.

Table 18: Lower Alcohol Fatty Acid Ester Surfactants

COMPOUND	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT (Supplier)	HLB
Ethyl oleate	Crodamol EO (Croda), Nikkol EOO (Nikko)	<10
30 Isopropyl myristate	Crodamol IPM (Croda)	<10
Isopropyl palmitate	Crodamol IPP (Croda)	<10
Ethyl linoleate	Nikkol VF-E (Nikko)	<10

1	Isopropyl linoleate	Nikkol VF-IP (Nikko)	<10
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2.18. Ionic Surfactants

5 Ionic surfactants, including cationic, anionic and zwitterionic surfactants, are suitable hydrophilic surfactants for use in the present invention. Preferred anionic surfactants include fatty acid salts and bile salts. Preferred cationic surfactants include carnitines. Specifically, preferred ionic surfactants include sodium oleate, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium lauryl sarcosinate, sodium dioctyl sulfosuccinate, sodium cholate, sodium taurocholate; lauroyl carnitine; palmitoyl carnitine; and myristoyl carnitine. Examples of 10 such surfactants are shown in Table 19. For simplicity, typical counterions are shown in the entries in the Table. It will be appreciated by one skilled in the art, however, that any bioacceptable counterion may be used. For example, although the fatty acids are shown as sodium salts, other cation counterions can also be used, such as alkali metal cations or ammonium. Unlike typical non-ionic surfactants, these ionic surfactants are generally 15 available as pure compounds, rather than commercial (proprietary) mixtures. Because these compounds are readily available from a variety of commercial suppliers, such as Aldrich, Sigma, and the like, commercial sources are not generally listed in the Table.

20 Table 19: Ionic Surfactants

COMPOUND	HLB
FATTY ACID SALTS	>10
Sodium caproate	
Sodium caprylate	
25 Sodium caprate	
Sodium laurate	
Sodium myristate	
Sodium myristoleate	
Sodium palmitate	
30 Sodium palmitoleate	
Sodium oleate	
Sodium ricinoleate	

1	Sodium linoleate	
	Sodium linolenate	
	Sodium stearate	
	Sodium lauryl sulfate (dodecyl)	40
5	Sodium tetradecyl sulfate	
	Sodium lauryl sarcosinate	
	Sodium dioctyl sulfosuccinate [sodium docusate (Cytec)]	
	BILE SALTS	>10
	Sodium cholate	
10	Sodium taurocholate	
	Sodium glycocholate	
	Sodium deoxycholate	
	Sodium taurodeoxycholate	
15	Sodium glycodeoxycholate	
	Sodium ursodeoxycholate	
	Sodium chenodeoxycholate	
	Sodium taurochenodeoxycholate	
	Sodium glyco cheno deoxycholate	
20	Sodium cholylsarcosinate	
	Sodium N-methyl taurocholate	
	Sodium lithocholate	
	PHOSPHOLIPIDS	
	Egg/Soy lecithin [Epikuron™ (Lucas Meyer), Ovothin™ (Lucas Meyer)]	
25	Lyso egg/soy lecithin	
	Hydroxylated lecithin	
	Lysophosphatidylcholine	
	Cardiolipin	
	Sphingomyelin	
30	Phosphatidylcholine	
	Phosphatidyl ethanolamine	
	Phosphatidic acid	

1 Phosphatidyl glycerol

Phosphatidyl serine

PHOSPHORIC ACID ESTERS

Diethanolammonium polyoxyethylene-10 oleyl ether phosphate

5 Esterification products of fatty alcohols or fatty alcohol ethoxylates with phosphoric acid or anhydride

CARBOXYLATES

Ether carboxylates (by oxidation of terminal OH group of fatty alcohol ethoxylates)

10 Succinylated monoglycerides [LAMEGIN ZE (Henkel)]

Sodium stearyl fumarate

Stearoyl propylene glycol hydrogen succinate

Mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono- and diglycerides

Citric acid esters of mono-, diglycerides

15 Glyceryl-lacto esters of fatty acids (CFR ref. 172.852)

Acyl lactylates:

lactylic esters of fatty acids

calcium/sodium stearoyl-2-lactylate

calcium/sodium stearoyl lactylate

20 Alginate salts

Propylene glycol alginate

SULFATES AND SULFONATES

Ethoxylated alkyl sulfates

Alkyl benzene sulfones

25 α-olefin sulfonates

Acyl isethionates

Acyl taurates

Alkyl glycercyl ether sulfonates

Octyl sulfosuccinate disodium

30 Disodium undecylenamide-MEA-sulfosuccinate

CATIONIC Surfactants

>10

Lauroyl carnitine

- 1 Palmitoyl carnitine
Myristoyl carnitine
Hexadecyl trimmonium bromide
Decyl trimethyl ammonium bromide
5 Cetyl trimethyl ammonium bromide
Dodecyl ammonium chloride
Alkyl benzylidimethylammonium salts
Diisobutyl phenoxyethoxydimethyl benzylammonium salts
Alkylpyridinium salts
10 Betaines (trialkylglycine):
 Lauryl betaine (N-lauryl,N,N-dimethylglycine)
Ethoxylated amines:
 Polyoxyethylene-15 coconut amine
-

15 2.19 Unionized Ionizable Surfactants

Ionizable surfactants, when present in their unionized (neutral, non-salt) form, are hydrophobic surfactants suitable for use in the compositions and methods of the present invention. Particular examples of such surfactants include free fatty acids, particularly C₆-C₂₂ fatty acids, and bile acids. More specifically, suitable unionized ionizable surfactants 20 include the free fatty acid and bile acid forms of any of the fatty acid salts and bile salts shown in Table 19.

2.20 Preferred Surfactants and Surfactant Combinations

Among the above-listed surfactants, several combinations are preferred. In all of the preferred combinations, the carrier includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant. 25 Preferred non-ionic hydrophilic surfactants include alkylglucosides; alkylmaltosides; alkylthioglucosides; lauryl macrogolglycerides; polyoxyethylene alkyl ethers; polyoxyethylene alkylphenols; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyglycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-glycerides; polyoxyethylene sterols, derivatives, and analogues thereof; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols 30

- 1 with fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; sugar esters, sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; and mixtures thereof.

More preferably, the non-ionic hydrophilic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene alkylethers; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; 5 polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyglyceryl fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; and polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils. The glyceride can be a monoglyceride, diglyceride, triglyceride, or a mixture.

10 Also preferred are non-ionic hydrophilic surfactants that are reaction mixtures of polyols and fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils or sterols. These reaction mixtures are largely composed of the transesterification products of the reaction, along with often complex mixtures of other reaction products. The polyol is preferably glycerol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, 15 pentaerythritol, or a saccharide.

Several particularly preferred carrier compositions are those which include as a non-ionic hydrophilic surfactant PEG-10 laurate, PEG-12 laurate, PEG-20 laurate, PEG-32 laurate, PEG-32 dilaurate, PEG-12 oleate, PEG-15 oleate, PEG-20 oleate, PEG-20 dioleate, PEG-32 oleate, PEG-200 oleate, PEG-400 oleate, PEG-15 stearate, PEG-32 distearate, PEG-40 stearate, PEG-100 stearate, PEG-20 dilaurate, PEG-25 glycetyl trioleate, PEG-32 dioleate, PEG-20 glycetyl laurate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-20 glycetyl stearate, PEG-20 glycetyl oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-40 glycetyl laurate, PEG-40 palm kernel oil, PEG-50 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-40 castor oil, PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-60 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor 25 oil, PEG-60 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides, polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-30 cholesterol, PEG-25 phyto sterol, PEG-30 soya sterol, PEG-20 trioleate, PEG-40 sorbitan oleate, PEG-80 sorbitan laurate, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, POE-20 oleyl ether, POE-20 stearyl ether, tocopheryl PEG-100 30 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol, polyglyceryl-10 oleate, Tween 40, Tween 60, sucrose monostearate, sucrose monolaurate, sucrose monopalmitate, PEG 10-100 nonyl phenol series, PEG 15-100 octyl phenol series, or a poloxamer.

1 Among these preferred surfactants, more preferred are PEG-20 laurate, PEG-20
oleate, PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 palm kernel oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-
60 corn oil, PEG-25 glyceryl trioleate, polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate
glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-30 cholesterol, polysorbate 20,
5 polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, PEG-24
cholesterol, sucrose monostearate, sucrose monolaurate and poloxamers. Most preferred
are PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-25 glyceryl
trioleate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides,
polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, tocopheryl PEG-1000 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol, and
10 hydrophilic poloxamers.

The hydrophilic surfactant can also be, or include as a component, an ionic
surfactant. Preferred ionic surfactants include alkyl ammonium salts; bile acids and salts,
analogues, and derivatives thereof; fusidic acid and derivatives thereof; fatty acid
derivatives of amino acids, oligopeptides, and polypeptides; glyceride derivatives of
15 amino acids, oligopeptides, and polypeptides; acyl lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric
acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; succinylated monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-
,diglycerides; alginate salts; propylene glycol alginate; lecithins and hydrogenated
lecithins; lysolecithin and hydrogenated lysolecithins; lysophospholipids and derivatives
thereof; phospholipids and derivatives thereof; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty acids;
20 sodium docusate; carnitines; and mixtures thereof.

More preferable ionic surfactants include bile acids and salts, analogues, and
derivatives thereof; lecithins, lysolecithin, phospholipids, lysophospholipids and
derivatives thereof; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty acids; sodium docusate; acyl
lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; succinylated
25 monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; carnitines; and mixtures thereof.

More specifically, preferred ionic surfactants are lecithin, lysolecithin,
phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidic acid,
phosphatidylserine, lysophosphatidylcholine, lysophosphatidylethanolamine,
lysophosphatidylglycerol, lysophosphatidic acid, lysophosphatidylserine, PEG-
30 phosphatidylethanolamine, PVP-phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids,
stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated
tartaric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate,

- 1 taurocholate, glycocholate, deoxycholate, taurodeoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate,
glycodeoxycholate, glycochenodeoxycholate, taurochenodeoxycholate, ursodeoxycholate,
tauroursodeoxycholate, glycoursodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, N-methyl taurocholate,
caproate, caprylate, caprate, laurate, myristate, palmitate, oleate, ricinoleate, linoleate,
5 linolenate, stearate, lauryl sulfate, teracecyl sulfate, docusate, lauroyl carnitines, palmitoyl
carnitines, myristoyl carnitines, and salts and mixtures thereof.

Particularly preferred ionic surfactants are lecithin, lysolecithin, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, lysophosphatidylcholine, PEG-phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids, 10 stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate, taurocholate, glycocholate, deoxycholate, taurodeoxycholate, glycodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, caproate, caprylate, caprate, laurate, oleate, lauryl sulfate, docusate, and salts and mixtures thereof, with the most preferred ionic surfactants being lecithin, lactylic 15 esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, taurocholate, caprylate, caprate, oleate, lauryl sulfate, docusate, and salts and mixtures thereof.

The carrier of the present compositions includes at least two surfactants, at least 20 one of which is hydrophilic. In one embodiment, the present invention includes at two surfactants that are hydrophilic, and preferred hydrophilic surfactants are listed above. In another embodiment, the carrier includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. In this embodiment, preferred hydrophobic surfactants are alcohols; polyoxyethylene alkylethers; fatty acids; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated 25 glycerol fatty acid esters; lower alcohol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; propylene glycol diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; transesterified vegetable oils; 30 sterols; sterol derivatives; sugar esters; sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; and polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils.

1 As with the hydrophilic surfactants, hydrophobic surfactants can be reaction mixtures of polyols and fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

5 Preferably, the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids; lower alcohol fatty acid esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene
10 hydrogenated vegetable oils; and reaction mixtures of polyols and fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

More preferred are lower alcohol fatty acids esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; propylene glycol fatty acid esters; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters;
15 polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; and mixtures thereof, with glycerol fatty acid esters and acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters being most preferred. Among the glycerol fatty acid esters, the esters are preferably mono- or diglycerides, or mixtures of mono- and diglycerides, where the fatty acid moiety is a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid.

Also preferred are hydrophobic surfactants which are the reaction mixture of
20 polyols and fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols. Preferred polyols are polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, and pentaerythritol.

Specifically preferred hydrophobic surfactants include myristic acid; oleic acid; lauric acid; stearic acid; palmitic acid; PEG 1-4 stearate; PEG 2-4 oleate; PEG-4 dilaurate;
25 PEG-4 dioleate; PEG-4 distearate; PEG-6 dioleate; PEG-6 distearate; PEG-8 dioleate; PEG 3-16 castor oil; PEG 5-10 hydrogenated castor oil; PEG 6-20 corn oil; PEG 6-20 almond oil; PEG-6 olive oil; PEG-6 peanut oil; PEG-6 palm kernel oil; PEG-6 hydrogenated palm kernel oil; PEG-4 capric/caprylic triglyceride, mono, di, tri, tetra esters of vegetable oil and sorbitol; pentaerythrityl di, tetra stearate, isostearate, oleate, caprylate,
30 or caprate; polyglyceryl 2-4 oleate, stearate, or isostearate; polyglyceryl 4-10 pentaoleate; polyglyceryl-3 dioleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; polyglyceryl-10 trioleate; polyglyceryl-3 distearate; propylene glycol mono- or diesters of a C₆ to C₂₀ fatty acid; monoglycerides of

- 1 C₆ to C₂₀ fatty acids; acetylated monoglycerides of C₆ to C₂₀ fatty acids; diglycerides of C₆ to C₂₀ fatty acids; lactic acid derivatives of monoglycerides; lactic acid derivatives of diglycerides; cholesterol; phytosterol; PEG 5-20 soya sterol; PEG-6 sorbitan tetra, hexastearate; PEG-6 sorbitan tetraoleate; sorbitan monolaurate; sorbitan monopalmitate;
- 5 sorbitan mono, trioleate; sorbitan mono, tristearate; sorbitan monoisostearate; sorbitan sesquioleate; sorbitan sesquistearate; PEG 2-5 oleyl ether; POE 2-4 lauryl ether; PEG-2 cetyl ether; PEG-2 stearyl ether; sucrose distearate; sucrose dipalmitate; ethyl oleate; isopropyl myristate; isopropyl palmitate; ethyl linoleate; isopropyl linoleate; and poloxamers.
- 10 Among the specifically preferred hydrophobic surfactants, most preferred are oleic acid; lauric acid; glyceryl monocaprate; glyceryl monocaprylate; glyceryl monolaurate; glyceryl monooleate; glyceryl dicaprate; glyceryl dicaprylate; glyceryl dilaurate; glyceryl dioleate; acetylated monoglycerides; propylene glycol oleate; propylene glycol laurate; polyglyceryl-3 oleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; PEG-6 corn oil; PEG-20 corn oil; PEG-20
- 15 almond oil; sorbitan monooleate; sorbitan monolaurate; POE-4 lauryl ether; POE-3 oleyl ether; ethyl oleate; and poloxamers.

3. Therapeutic Agents

In the embodiments of the present invention which include therapeutic agents, the therapeutic agents suitable for use in the pharmaceutical compositions and methods of the present invention are not particularly limited, as the compositions are surprisingly capable of solubilizing and delivering a wide variety of therapeutic agents. The therapeutic agents can be hydrophilic, lipophilic, amphiphilic or hydrophobic, and can be solubilized in the triglyceride; solubilized in the carrier; solubilized in both the triglyceride and the carrier; or present in the diluent. Optionally, the therapeutic agent can be present in a first, 25 solubilized amount, and a second, non-solubilized (suspended) amount. Such therapeutic agents can be any agents having therapeutic or other value when administered to an animal, particularly to a mammal, such as drugs, nutrients, and cosmetics (cosmeceuticals). It should be understood that while the invention is described with particular reference to its value in the form of aqueous dispersions, the invention is not so limited. Thus, drugs, nutrients or cosmetics which derive their therapeutic or other value from, for example, topical or transdermal administration, are still considered to be suitable 30 for use in the present invention.

1 Specific non-limiting examples of therapeutic agents that can be used in the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention include analgesics and anti-inflammatory agents, anthelmintics, anti-arrhythmic agents, anti-asthma agents, anti-bacterial agents, anti-viral agents, anti-coagulants, anti-depressants, anti-diabetics, anti-epileptics, anti-fungal agents, anti-gout agents, anti-hypertensive agents, anti-malarials, anti-migraine agents, anti-muscarinic agents, anti-neoplastic agents and immunosuppressants, antiprotozoal agents, anti-thyroid agents, anti-tussives, anxiolytic, sedatives, hypnotics and neuroleptics, β -Blockers, cardiac inotropic agents, corticosteroids, diuretics, anti-parkinsonian agents, gastro-intestinal agents, histamine H₁-receptor antagonists, keratolytics, lipid regulating agents, muscle relaxants, anti-anginal agents, nutritional agents, analgesics, sex hormones, stimulants, peptides, peptidomimetics, DNA, RNA, oligodeoxynucleotides, genetic material, proteins, oligonucleotides, and vaccines.

10 In one embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a nutritional agent.

15 In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a cosmeceutical agent.

 In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a protein, peptide or oligonucleotide. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a protein, peptidomimetic, DNA, RNA, oligodeoxynucleotide, genetic material, peptide or oligonucleotide having a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

20 In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent is hydrophobic. Hydrophobic therapeutic agents are compounds with little or no water solubility. Intrinsic water solubilities (*i.e.*, water solubility of the unionized form) for hydrophobic therapeutic agents are less than about 1% by weight, and typically less than about 0.1% or 0.01% by weight. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug. In another particular aspect, the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug having a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

25 In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent is hydrophilic. Amphiphilic therapeutic agents are included within the class of hydrophilic therapeutic agents. Apparent water solubilities for hydrophilic therapeutic agents are greater than about 1% by weight, and typically greater than about 0.1% by weight. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the therapeutic agent is a hydrophilic drug. In another particular aspect, the

- 1 therapeutic agent is a hydrophilic drug having a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

Although the invention is not limited thereby, examples of therapeutic agents suitable for use in the compositions and methods of the present invention include the 5 following representative compounds, as well as their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, isomers, esters, ethers and other derivatives:

abacavir, acarbose, acebutolol, acetazolamide, acetohexamide, acrivastine, acutretin, acyclovir, alatrofloxacin, aibendazole, albuferol, aiclofenac, alendronate, allopurinol, aloxiiprin, alprazolam, alprenolol, alprostadil, amantadine, amiloride, aminoglutethimide, 10 amiodarone, amiodarone HCl, amitriptyline, amlodipine, , amodiaquine, amoxapine, amoxapine, amphetamine, amphotericin, amprenavir, amrinone, amsacrine, amyl nitrate, amylobarbital, amylobarbitone, aspirin, astemizole, atenolol, atorvastatin, atovaquone, atropine, auranofin, azapropazone, azathioprine, azelastine, azithromycin, baclofen, barbital, barbitone, becaplermin, beclamide, beclomethasone, bendrofluazide, 15 benethamine, benethamine penicillin, benzephril, benidipine, benorylate, bentazepam, benzhexol, benzhexol HCl, benznidazole, benzonataate, benztrapine, bephenium hydroxynaphthoate, betamethasone, bezafibrate, bicalutamide, biperiden, bisacodyl, bisanthrene, bovine growth hormone, bromazepam, bromfenac, bromocriptine, bromocriptine mesylate, bromperidol, brompheniramine, brotizolam, budesonide, 20 bumetanide, bupropion, busulphan, butenafine, butenafine HCl, butobarbital, butobarbitone, butoconazole, butoconazole nitrate, calcifediol, calciprotiene, calcitonin, calcitriol, cambendazole, camptothecan, camptothecin, candesartan, capecitabine, capsacin, capsaicin, captopril, carbamazepine, carbimazole, carbinoxamine, carbromal, carotenes, cefazolin, cefoxitin sodium, celecoxib, cephadrine, cephalexin, cerivastatin, 25 cetrizine, chlopheniramine, chlophenisamine, chloproguanil, chlorambucil, chlordiazepoxide, chlormethiazole, chloroquine, chlorothiazide, chlorproguanil HCl, chlorpromazine, chlorpropamide, chlorprothiocene, chlorprothixene, chlorthalidone, cholecalciferol, cilostazol, cimetidine, cinnarizine, cinoxacin, ciprofloxacin, ciprofloxacin HCl, cisapride, citalopram, citrizine, clarithromycin, clemastine, clemastine fumarate, 30 clemizole, clenbuterol, clinofibrate, clioquinol, clobazam, clofazimine, clofibrate, clomiphene, clomiphene citrate, clomipramine, clonazepam, clopidrogel, clotiazepam, clotrimazole, cloxacillin, clozapine, codeine, conjugated estrogens, cortisone acetate,

- 1 cortisone acetate, cromalyn sodium, cromoglicate, cromolyn, cyclizine, cyclosporin,
cyproheptadine, cyproheptadine HCl, dacarbazine, danazol, dantrolene, dantrolene
sodium, darodipine, decoquinate, delavirdine, demeclocycline, desoxymethasone,
dexamphetamine, dexchlorpheniramine, dexfenfluramine, dextropropoxyphene,
5 diamorphine, diazepam, diazoxide, dichlorophen, diclofenac, dicloxacillin, dicoumarol,
dicumarol, didanosine, diethylpropion, diflunisal, digitoxin, digoxin, dihydro
epiandrosterone, dihydrocodeine, dihydroergotamine, dihydroergotamine mesylate,
dihydrotachysterol, diiodohydroxyquinoline, dilitazem, dilitazem HCl, diloxanide furoate,
dimenhydrinate, dinitolmide, diphenhydramine, diphenooxylate, diphenoxylate HCl,
10 diphenylimidazole, diphenylpyrallin, dipyridamole, dirithromycin, disopyramide,
divalproen, docusate, dolasetron, domperidone, donepezil, donepezil HCl, doxazosin,
doxazosin HCl, doxycycline, dronabinol, droperidol, econazole, econazole nitrate,
editronate, efavirenz, elanapril, ellipticine, enalapril, enkephalin, enoxacin, enoximone,
enrofloxacin, epalrestat, eperisone, ephedrine, eposartan, eposartan losartan,
15 ergocalciferol, ergotamine, ergotamine tartrate, erythromycin, erythropoietin, essential
fatty acids, estramustine, ethacrynic acid, ethambutol, ethinamate, ethinyloestradiol,
ethionamide, ethopropazine, ethopropazine HCl, ethotoxin, etodolac, etoperidone,
etoposide, etretinate, famcyclovir, famotidine, felbamate, felodipine, fenbendazole,
fenbufen, fenfluramine, fenofibrate, fenolclopam, fenoldopam, fenoprofen, fenoprofen
20 calcium, fentanyl, fexofenadine, finasteride, flecainide, flecainide acetate, fluconazole,
flucortolone, flucytosine, fludrocortisone, fludrocortisone acetate, fluoxetine HCl,
flunanisone, flunarizine, flunarizine HCl, flunisolide, flunitrazepam, fluopromazine,
fluoxetine, fluoxymesterone, flupenthixol decanoate, flupentixol, flupentixol decanoate,
fluphenazine, fluphenazine decanoate, flurazepam, flurbiprofen, flurithromycin,
25 fluticasone propionate, fluvastatin, foscarnet sodium, fosinopril, fosphenytoin,
fosphenytoin sodium, frovatriptan, frusemide, fumagillin, furazolidone, furosemide,
furzolidone, gabapentin, gancyclovir, gemfibrozil, gentamycin, glibenclamide, gliclazide,
glipizide, glucagon, glybenclamide, glyburide, glycetyl trinitrate, glymepride,
glymepride, granisetron, granulocyte stimulating factor, grepafloxacin, griseofulvin,
30 guanabenz, guanabenz acetate, halofantrine, halofantrine HCl, haloperidol,
hydrocortisone, hyoscyamine, ibufenac, ibuprofen, imipenem, indinavir, indivir,
indomethacin, insulin, interleukin-3, irbesartan, irinotecan, isosorbide dinitrate, isosorbide

- 1 mononitrate, isotretinoin, isoxazole, isradipine, itraconazole, ivermectin, ketoconazole,
ketoprofen, ketorolac, ketotifen, labetalol, lamivudine, lamotrigine, lanatoside C,
lanosprazole, leflunomide, levofloxacin, levothyroxine, lisinopril, lomefloxacin,
lomustine, loperamide, loratadine, lorazepam, lorefloxacin, lormetazepam, losartan,
5 lovastatin, L-thyroxine, lysuride, lysuride maleate, maprotiline, maprotiline HCl,
mazindol, mebendazole, meclofenamic acid, meclozine, meclozine HCl, medazepam,
medigoxin, medroxyprogesterone acetate, mefenamic acid, mefloquine, mefloquine HCl,
megesterol acetate, melonicam, melphalan, mepacrine, mepenzolate bromide,
meprobamate, meptazinol, mercaptopurine, mesalazine, mesoridazine, mesoridiazine,
10 mestranol, mesylate, metformin, methadone, methaqualone, methoin, methotrexate,
methoxsalen, methsuximide, methylphenidate, methylphenobarbital,
methylphenobarbitone, methylprednisolone, methyltestosterone, methysergide,
methysergide maleate, metoclopramide, metolazone, metoprolol, metronidazole,
mianserin, mianserin HCl, miconazole, midazolam, miglitol, minoxidil, mitomycins,
15 mitotane, mitoxantrone, mofetil, molindone, montelukast, morphine, mordriptyline,
moxifloxacin, moxifloxacin HCl, mycophenolate, nabumetone, nadolol, nalbuphine,
nalidixic acid, naproxen, naratriptan, naratriptan HCl, natamycin, nedocromil sodium,
nefazodone, nelfinavir, nerterporfin, neutontin, nevirapine, nicardipine, nicardipine HCl,
nicotine, nicoumalone, nifedipine, nilutamide, nimesulide, nimodipine, nimorazole,
20 nisoldipine, nitrazepam, nitrofurantoin, nitrofurazone, nizatidine, non-essential fatty acids,
norethisterone, norfloxacin, norgestrel, nortriptyline HCl, nystatin, oestradiol, ofloxacin,
olanzapine, omeprazole, ondansetron, ondansetron HCL, oprelvekin, ornidazole, oxacillin,
oxamniquine, oxantel, oxantel embonate, oxaprozin, oxatomide, oxazepam,
oxcarbazepine, oxfendazole, oxiconazole, oxprenolol, oxybutynin, oxyphenbutazone,
25 oxyphencylcimine, oxyphencylcimine HCl, paclitaxel, pamidronate, paramethadione,
paricalcitol, paroxetine, paroxetine HCl, penicillins, pentaerythritol tetranitrate,
pentazocine, pentobarbital, pentobarbitone, pentoxyfylline, perchloroperazine, perfloxacin,
pericyclovir, perphenazine, perphenazine pimozide, phenacetamide, phenbenzamine,
phenindione, pheniramine, phenobarbital, phenobarbitone, phenoxybenzamine,
30 phenoxybenzamine HCl, phensuximide, phentermine, phenylalanine, phenylbutazone,
phenytoin, physostigmine, phytonodione, pimozide, pindolol, pioglitazone, piroxicam,
pizotifen, pizotifen maleate, pramipexol, pramipexole, pranlukast, pravastatin,

- 1 praziquantel, prazosin, prazosin HCl, prednisolone, prednisone, pregabalin, primidone, probenecid, probucol, procarbazine, procarbazine HCl, prochlorperazine, progesterone, proguanil, proguanil HCl, propofol, propranolol, propylthiouracil, pseudoephedrine, pyrantel, pyrantel embonate, pyridostigmine, pyrimethamine, quetiapine, quinapril,
5 quinidine, quinidine sulfate, quinine, quinine sulfate, rabeprazole, rabeprazole sodium, raloxifene, raloxifene HCl, ranitidine, ranitidine HCl, recombinant human growth hormone, refcoxib, remifentanil, repaglinide, reserpine, residronate, retinoids, ricobendazole, rifabutin, rifabutine, rifampicin, rifampin, rifapentine, rimantadine, rimexolone, risperidone, ritonavir, rizatriptan, rizatriptan benzoate, robenirole HCl,
10 ropinirole, rosiglitazone, roxatidine, roxithromycin, salbutamol, salmon calcitonin (sCT), saquinavir, selegiline, sertindole, sertraline, sertraline HCl, sibutramine, sibutramine HCl, sildenafil, sildenafil citrate, simvastatin, sirolimus, sodium cefazoline, somatostatin, sparfloxacin, spiramycins, spironolactone, stanozolol, stavudine, stavueline, stiboestrol, sulconazole, sulconazole nitrate, sulfabenzamide, sulfacetamide, sulfadiazine, sulfadoxine,
15 sulfafurazole, sulfamerazine, sulfamethoxazole, sulfapyridine, sulfasalazine, sulindac, sulphabenzamide, sulphacetamide, sulphadiazine, sulphadoxine, sulphafurazole, sulphamerazine, sulphamethoxazole, sulphapyridine, sulphosalazine, sulphin-pyrazone, sulpiride, sulthiame, sumatriptan, sumatriptan succinate, tacrine, tacrolimus, tamoxifen, tamoxifen citrate, tamsulosin, tamsulosin HCl, targretin, tazarotene, telmisartan,
20 temazepam, teniposide, terazosin, terazosin HCl, terbinafine HCl, terbutaline, terbutaline sulfate, terconazole, terenadine, terfenadine, testolactone, testosterone, tetracycline, tetrahydrocannabinol, tetramisole, thiabendazole, thioguanine, thioridazine, tiagabine, tiagabine HCl, tibolone, ticlidopine, ticlopidine, tiludronate, timolol, tinidazole, tioconazole, tirofiban, tizanidine, tizanidine HCl, tolazamide, tolbutamide, tolcapone,
25 tolmetin, tolterodine, topiramate, topotecan, topotecan HCl, toremifene, toremifene citrate, tramadol, trazodone, trazodone HCl, tretinoin, triamcinolone, triamterene, triazolam, trifluoperazine, trimethoprim, trimipramine, trimipramine maleate, troglitazone, tromethamine, tropicamide, trovafloxacin, tumor necrosis factor, undecenoic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, valacylcovir, valproic acid, valsartan, vancomycin, vasopressin,
30 venlafaxine HCl, verteporfin, vigabatrin, vinblastine, vincristine, vinorelbine, vitamin A, vitamin B₂, vitamin D, vitamin E and vitamin K, vitamin K₅, vitamin K₆, vitamin K₇, vitamin K-S (II), zafirlukast, zileuton, zolmitriptan, zolpidem, and zopiclone.

1 Of course, salts, metabolic precursors, derivatives and mixtures of therapeutic
agents may also be used where desired.

4. Concentrations

5 The components of the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention in
amounts such that upon dilution with an aqueous solution, the composition forms a clear,
aqueous dispersion. The determining concentrations of components to form clear aqueous
dispersions are the concentrations of triglyceride and surfactants, with the amount of the
therapeutic agent, if present, being chosen as described below. The relative amounts of
10 triglycerides and surfactants are readily determined by observing the properties of the
resultant dispersion; *i.e.*, when the relative amounts of these components are within a
suitable range, the resultant aqueous dispersion is optically clear. When the relative
amounts are outside the suitable range, the resulting dispersion is visibly "cloudy",
resembling a conventional emulsion or multiple-phase system. Although a visibly cloudy
solution may be potentially useful for some applications, such a system would suffer from
15 many of the same disadvantages as conventional prior art formulations, as described
above.

20 A convenient method of determining the appropriate relative concentrations for
any particular triglyceride is as follows. A convenient working amount of a hydrophilic
surfactant is provided, and a known amount of the triglyceride is added. The mixture is
stirred, with the aid of gentle heating if desired, then is diluted with purified water to
prepare an aqueous dispersion. Any dilution amount can be chosen, but convenient
dilutions are those within the range expected *in vivo*, about a 10 to 250-fold dilution. In
the Examples herein, a convenient dilution of 100-fold was chosen. The aqueous
dispersion is then assessed qualitatively for optical clarity. The procedure can be repeated
25 with incremental variations in the relative amount of triglyceride added, to determine the
maximum relative amount of triglyceride that can be present to form a clear aqueous
dispersion with a given hydrophilic surfactant. *I.e.*, when the relative amount of
triglyceride is too great, a hazy or cloudy dispersion is formed.

30 The amount of triglyceride that can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion is
increased by repeating the above procedure, but substituting a second hydrophilic
surfactant, or a hydrophobic surfactant, for part of the originally-used hydrophilic
surfactant, thus keeping the total surfactant concentration constant. Of course, this

1 procedure is merely exemplary, and the amounts of the components can be chosen using other methods, as desired.

It has been surprisingly found that mixtures of surfactants including two hydrophilic surfactants can solubilize a greater relative amount of triglyceride than a single surfactant. Similarly, mixtures of surfactants including a hydrophilic surfactant and a hydrophobic surfactant can solubilize a greater relative amount of triglyceride than either surfactant by itself. It is particularly surprising that when the surfactant mixture includes a hydrophilic surfactant and a hydrophobic surfactant, the solubility of the triglyceride is greater than, for example, in the hydrophilic surfactant itself. Thus, contrary to conventional knowledge in the art, the total amount of water-insoluble component (triglyceride plus hydrophobic surfactant) exceeds the amount of hydrophobic surfactant that can be solubilized by the same amount of hydrophilic surfactant. This unexpected finding shows a surprising and non-intuitive relationship between the hydrophilic and hydrophobic components.

15 It should be emphasized that the optical clarity is determined in the diluted composition (the aqueous dispersion), and not in the pre-concentrate. Thus, for example, U.S. Patent No. 4,719,239 shows optically clear compositions containing water, oil, and a 3:7 mixture of PEG-glycerol monooleate and caprylic-capric acid glycerol esters, but the compositions contain no more than about 75% by weight water, or a dilution of the pre-concentrate of no more than 3 to 1. Upon dilution with water in a ratio of more than about 3 to 1, the compositions of the cited reference phase-separate into multi-phase systems, as is shown, for example, in the phase diagram of Figure 2 in the '239 patent. In contrast, the compositions of the present invention, when diluted to values typical of dilutions encountered *in vivo*, or when diluted *in vivo* upon administration to a patient, remain as clear aqueous dispersions. Thus, the clear aqueous dispersions of the present invention are formed upon dilution of about 10 to about 250-fold or more.

As an alternative to qualitative visual assessment of optical clarity, the optical clarity of the aqueous dispersion can be measured using standard quantitative techniques for turbidity assessment. One convenient procedure to measure turbidity is to measure the 30 amount of light of a given wavelength transmitted by the solution, using, for example, a UV-visible spectrophotometer. Using this measure, optical clarity corresponds to high transmittance, since cloudier solutions will scatter more of the incident radiation, resulting

- 1 in lower transmittance measurements. If this procedure is used, care should be taken to insure that the composition itself does not absorb light of the chosen wavelength, as any true absorbance necessarily reduces the amount of transmitted light and falsely increases the quantitative turbidity value. In the absence of chromophores at the chosen wavelength,
- 5 suitable dispersions at a dilution of 100X should have an apparent absorbance of less than about 0.3, preferably less than about 0.2, and more preferably less than about 0.1.

Other methods of characterizing optical clarity, such as direct particle size measurement and other methods known in the art may also be used.

- It should be emphasized that any or all of the available methods may be used to
- 10 ensure that the resulting aqueous dispersions possess the requisite optical clarity. For convenience, however, the present inventors prefer to use the simple qualitative procedure; *i.e.*, simple visible observation. However, in order to more fully illustrate the practice of the present invention, both qualitative observation and spectroscopic measures are used to assess the dispersion clarity in the Examples herein.

- 15 If present, the therapeutic agent is solubilized in the triglyceride, the carrier, or in both the triglyceride and the carrier. Alternatively, the therapeutic agent can be solubilized in the aqueous medium used to dilute the preconcentrate to form an aqueous dispersion. The maximum amount of therapeutic agent that can be solubilized is readily determined by simple mixing, as the presence of any non-solubilized therapeutic agent is
- 20 apparent upon visual examination.

- In one embodiment, the therapeutic agent is present in an amount up to the maximum amount that can be solubilized in the composition. In another embodiment, the therapeutic agent is present in a first amount which is solubilized, and a second amount that remains unsolubilized but dispersed. This may be desirable when, for example, a
- 25 larger dose of the therapeutic agent is desired. Although not all of the therapeutic agent is solubilized, such a composition presents advantages over conventional compositions, since at least a portion of the therapeutic agent is present in the clear aqueous dispersion phase. Of course, in this embodiment, the optical clarity of the resultant aqueous dispersion is determined before the second non-solubilized amount of the therapeutic agent is added.

- 30 Other considerations well known to those skilled in the art will further inform the choice of specific proportions of surfactants and triglycerides. These considerations include the degree of bioacceptability of the compounds, and the desired dosage of

1 therapeutic agent to be provided. In some cases, the amount of triglyceride or therapeutic agent actually used in a pharmaceutical composition according to the present invention will be less than the maximum that can be solubilized, and it should be apparent that such compositions are also within the scope of the present invention.

5 **5. Solubilizers**

If desired, the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can optionally include additional compounds to enhance the solubility of the therapeutic agent or the triglyceride in the composition. Examples of such compounds, referred to as "solubilizers", include:

10 alcohols and polyols, such as ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, butanediols and isomers thereof, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and cyclodextrin derivatives;

15 ethers of polyethylene glycols having an average molecular weight of about 200 to about 6000, such as tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol PEG ether (glycofurool, available commercially from BASF under the trade name Tetraglycol) or methoxy PEG (Union Carbide);

20 amides, such as 2-pyrrolidone, 2-piperidone, ϵ -caprolactam, N-alkylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyalkylpyrrolidone, N-alkylpiperidone, N-alkylcaprolactam, dimethylacetamide, and polyvinylpyrrolidone;

25 esters, such as ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, acetyl triethylcitrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, ethyl butyrate, triacetin, propylene glycol monoacetate, propylene glycol diacetate, ϵ -caprolactone and isomers thereof, δ -valerolactone and isomers thereof, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof;

and other solubilizers known in the art, such as dimethyl acetamide, dimethyl isosorbide (Arlasolve DMI (ICI)), N-methyl pyrrolidones (Pharmasolve (ISP)), mono-octanoin, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether (available from Gattefosse under the trade name Transcutol), and water.

30 Mixtures of solubilizers are also within the scope of the invention. Except as indicated, these compounds are readily available from standard commercial sources.

1 Preferred solubilizers include triacetin, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cyclodextrins, ethanol, polyethylene glycol 200-600, glycofurool, transcutol, propylene glycol, and
5 dimethyl isosorbide. Particularly preferred solubilizers include sorbitol, glycerol, triacetin, ethyl alcohol, PEG-400, glycofurool and propylene glycol.

The amount of solubilizer that can be included in compositions of the present invention is not particularly limited. Of course, when such compositions are ultimately administered to a patient, the amount of a given solubilizer is limited to a bioacceptable
10 amount, which is readily determined by one of skill in the art. In some circumstances, it may be advantageous to include amounts of solubilizers far in excess of bioacceptable amounts, for example, to maximize the concentration of therapeutic agent, with excess solubilizer removed prior to providing the composition to a patient using conventional techniques, such as distillation or evaporation. Thus, if present, the solubilizer can be in a
15 concentration of 50%, 100%, 200%, or up to about 400% by weight, based on the amount of surfactant. If desired, very small amounts of solubilizers may also be used, such as 25%, 10%, 5%, 1% or even less. Typically, the solubilizer will be present in an amount of about 1% to about 100%, more typically about 5% to about 25% by weight or about 10% to about 25% by weight.

20 **6. Enzyme Inhibitors**

When the therapeutic agent is subject to enzymatic degradation, the compositions can include an enzyme inhibiting agent. Enzyme inhibiting agents are shown for example, in Bernskop-Schnurch, A., "The use of inhibitory agents to overcome enzymatic barrier to perorally administered therapeutic peptides and proteins", *J. Controlled Release* 52, 1-16
25 (1998), the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Generally, inhibitory agents can be divided into the following classes:

Inhibitors that are not based on amino acids, such as P-aminobenzamidine, FK-448, camostat mesylate, sodium glycocholate;

Amino acids and modified amino acids, such as aminoboronic acid derivatives and
30 n-acetylcysteine;

Peptides and modified peptides, such as bacitracin, phosphinic acid dipeptide derivatives, pepstatin, antipain, leupeptin, chymostatin, elastatin, bestatin,

- 1 phosphoramidon, puromycin, cytochalasin potatocarboxy peptidase inhibitor, and amastatin;

5 Polypeptide protease inhibitors, such as aprotinin (bovine pancreatic trypsin inhibitor), Bowman-Birk inhibitor and soybean trypsin inhibitor, chicken egg white trypsin inhibitor, chicken ovoinhibitor, and human pancreatic trypsin inhibitor. Complexing agents, such as EDTA, EGTA, 1,10-phenanthroline and hydroxychinoline; and

10 Mucoadhesive polymers and polymer-inhibitor conjugates, such as polyacrylate derivatives, chitosan, cellulosics, chitosan-EDTA, chitosan-EDTA-antipain, polyacrylic acid-bacitracin, carboxymethyl cellulose-pepstatin, polyacrylic acid-Bwoman-Birk inhibitor.

15 The choice and levels of the enzyme inhibitor are based on toxicity, specificity of the proteases and the potency of the inhibition. The inhibitor can be suspended or solubilized in the composition preconcentrate, or added to the aqueous diluent or as a beverage.

Without wishing to be bound by theory, it is believed that an inhibitor can function solely or in combination as:

20 a competitive inhibitor, by binding at the substrate binding site of the enzyme, thereby preventing the access to the substrate; examples of inhibitors believed to operate by this mechanism are antipain, elastatinal and the Bowman Birk inhibitor;

a non-competitive inhibitor which can be simultaneously bound to the enzyme site along with the substrate, as their binding sites are not identical; and/or

a complexing agent due to loss in enzymatic activity caused by deprivation of essential metal ions out of the enzyme structure.

25 **7. Other Additives**

Other additives conventionally used in pharmaceutical compositions can be included, and these additives are well known in the art. Such additives include detackifiers, anti-foaming agents, buffering agents, antioxidants, preservatives, chelating agents, viscomodulators, tonicifiers, flavorants, colorants odorants, opacifiers, suspending agents, binders, fillers, plasticizers, lubricants, and mixtures thereof. The amounts of such additives can be readily determined by one skilled in the art, according to the particular properties desired.

1 8. **Dosage Forms**

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be formulated as a preconcentrate in a liquid, semi-solid, or solid form, or as an aqueous or organic diluted preconcentrate. In the diluted form, the diluent can be water, an aqueous solution, a
5 buffer, an organic solvent, a beverage, a juice, or mixtures thereof. If desired, the diluent can include components soluble therein, such as a therapeutic agent, an enzyme inhibitor, solubilizers, additives, and the like.

The compositions can be processed according to conventional processes known to those skilled in the art, such as lyophilization, encapsulation, compression, melting,
10 extrusion, drying, chilling, molding, spraying, coating, comminution, mixing, homogenization, sonication and granulation, to produce the desired dosage form.

The dosage form is not particularly limited. Thus, compositions of the present invention can be formulated as pills, capsules, caplets, tablets, granules, beads or powders. Granules, beads and powders can, of course, be further processed to form pills, capsules,
15 caplets or tablets. When formulated as a capsule, the capsule can be a hard or soft gelatin capsule, a starch capsule, or a cellulosic capsule. Such dosage forms can further be coated with, for example, a seal coating or an enteric coating. The term "enteric coated capsule" as used herein means a capsule coated with a coating resistant to acid; *i.e.*, an acid resistant enteric coating. Enteric coated compositions of this invention protect therapeutic peptides
20 or proteins in a restricted area of drug liberation and absorption, and reduce or even exclude extensive dilution effects. Although solubilizers are typically used to enhance the solubility of a hydrophobic therapeutic agent, they may also render the compositions more suitable for encapsulation in hard or soft gelatin capsules. Thus, the use of a solubilizer such as those described above is particularly preferred in capsule dosage forms of the
25 pharmaceutical compositions. If present, these solubilizers should be added in amounts sufficient to impart to the compositions the desired solubility enhancement or encapsulation properties.

Although formulations specifically suited to oral administration are presently preferred, the compositions of the present invention can also be formulated for topical,
30 transdermal, buccal, ocular, pulmonary, vaginal, rectal, transmucosal or parenteral administration, as well as for oral administration. Thus, the dosage form can be a solution, suspension, emulsion, cream, ointment, lotion, suppository, spray, aerosol, paste, gel,

- 1 drops, douche, ovule, wafer, troche, cachet, syrup, elixer, or other dosage form, as desired. If formulated as a suspension, the composition can further be processed in capsule form.

When formulated as a sprayable solution or dispersion, a dosage form of a multiparticulate carrier coated onto a substrate with the pharmaceutical compositions described herein can be used. The substrate can be a granule, a particle, or a bead, for example, and formed of a therapeutic agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable material. The multiparticulate carrier can be enteric coated with a pharmaceutically acceptable material as is well known to those skilled in the art.

Other additives may be included, such as are well-known in the art, to impart the 10 desired consistency and other properties to the formulation.

9. Specific Embodiments

In all of the embodiments described herein, the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, a clear, aqueous dispersion is formed. This optical clarity in an aqueous dispersion 15 defines the appropriate relative concentrations of the triglyceride and surfactant components, but does not restrict the dosage form of the compositions to an aqueous dispersion, nor does it limit the compositions of the invention to optically clear dosage forms. Thus, the appropriate concentrations of the triglyceride and surfactants are determined by the optical clarity of a dispersion formed by the composition preconcentrate 20 and an aqueous solution in a dilution of about 10 to about 250-fold, as a preliminary matter. Once the appropriate concentrations are determined, the pharmaceutical compositions can be formulated as described in the preceding section, without regard to the optical clarity of the ultimate formulation. Of course, optically clear aqueous dispersions, and their preconcentrates, are preferred formulations.

25 In one embodiment, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions having a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier including at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the 30 composition can contain more triglyceride than can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion having only one surfactant, the surfactant being hydrophilic. Thus, this embodiment provides a higher concentration of triglyceride than is achievable with a

- 1 single hydrophilic surfactant, resulting in a reduced triglyceride to hydrophilic surfactant ratio and enhanced biocompatibility.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions having a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier including at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion. In a particular aspect of this embodiment, the composition contains more triglyceride than can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion having a hydrophilic surfactant but not having a hydrophobic surfactant..

In another embodiment, the triglyceride itself can have therapeutic value as, for example, a nutritional oil, or absorption-promoting value as, for example, a long-chain triglyceride (LCT) or a medium-chain triglyceride (MCT). Thus, in this embodiment, the present invention provides pharmaceutical compositions including a triglyceride having nutritional and/or absorption-promoting value, and a carrier. The carrier includes at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. Optionally, the carrier can include at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon dilution with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition which includes a therapeutic agent, a triglyceride and a carrier. The carrier includes at least two surfactants, at least one of which is hydrophilic. Optionally, the carrier includes at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant. The triglyceride, and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon dilution with an aqueous solution, either *in vitro* or *in vivo*, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion. The therapeutic agent is present in two amounts, a first amount of the therapeutic agent solubilized in the clear aqueous dispersion, and a second amount of the therapeutic agent that remains non-solubilized but dispersed.

In another aspect, the present invention relates to triglyceride-containing pharmaceutical compositions as described in the preceding embodiments, which further include a therapeutic agent. In particular embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug or a hydrophilic drug. In other embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a

- 1 nutritional agent. In still further embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a cosmeceutical
agent.

10. Preparation of Pharmaceutical Compositions

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be prepared by conventional methods well known to those skilled in the art. Of course, the specific method of preparation will depend upon the ultimate dosage form. For dosage forms substantially free of water, *i.e.*, when the composition is provided in a pre-concentrate form for later dispersion *in vitro* or *in vivo* in an aqueous system, the composition is prepared by simple mixing of the components to form a pre-concentrate. The mixing process can be aided by gentle heating, if desired. For compositions in the form of an aqueous dispersion, the pre-concentrate form is prepared, then the appropriate amount of an aqueous solution is added. Upon gentle mixing, a clear aqueous dispersion is formed. If any water-soluble enzyme inhibitors or additives are included, these may be added first as part of the pre-concentrate, or added later to the clear aqueous dispersion, as desired. The compositions can be prepared with or without a therapeutic agent, and a therapeutic agent may also be provided in the diluent, if desired.

As previously noted, in another embodiment, the present invention includes a multi-phase dispersion containing a therapeutic agent. In this embodiment, a pharmaceutical composition includes a triglyceride and a carrier, which forms a clear aqueous dispersion upon mixing with an aqueous solution, and an additional amount of non-solubilized therapeutic agent. Thus, the term "multi-phase" as used herein to describe these compositions of the present invention means a composition which when mixed with an aqueous solution forms a clear aqueous phase and a particulate dispersion phase. The carrier and triglycerides are as described above, and can include any of the surfactants, therapeutic agents, solubilizers and additives previously described. An additional amount of therapeutic agent is included in the composition. This additional amount is not solubilized by the carrier, and upon mixing with an aqueous system is present as a separate dispersion phase. The additional amount is optionally a milled, micronized, or precipitated form. Thus, upon dilution, the composition contains two phases: a clear aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and surfactants containing a first, solubilized amount of the therapeutic agent, and a second, non-solubilized amount of the therapeutic agent dispersed therein. It should be emphasized that the resultant multi-phase dispersion

- 1 will not have the optical clarity of a dispersion in which the therapeutic agent is fully
solubilized, but will appear to be cloudy, due to the presence of the non-solubilized phase.
Such a formulation may be useful, for example, when the desired dosage of a therapeutic
agent exceeds that which can be solubilized in the carrier and/or triglyceride. The
5 formulation may also contain additives, as described above.

- One skilled in the art will appreciate that a therapeutic agent may have a greater
solubility in the pre-concentrate composition than in the aqueous dispersion, so that meta-
stable, supersaturated solutions having apparent optical clarity but containing a therapeutic
agent in an amount in excess of its solubility in the aqueous dispersion can be formed.
10 Such super-saturated solutions, whether characterized as clear aqueous dispersions (as
initially formed) or as multi-phase solutions (as would be expected if the meta-stable state
breaks down), are also within the scope of the present invention.

The multi-phase formulation can be prepared by the methods described above. A
pre-concentrate is prepared by simple mixing of the components, with the aid of gentle
15 heating, if desired. It is convenient to consider the therapeutic agent as divided into two
portions, a first solubilizable portion which will be solubilized and contained within the
clear aqueous dispersion upon dilution, and a second non-solubilizable portion which will
remain non-solubilized. When the ultimate dosage form is non-aqueous, the first and
second portions of the therapeutic agent are both included in the pre-concentrate mixture.
20 When the ultimate dosage form is aqueous, the composition can be prepared in the same
manner, and upon dilution in an aqueous system, the composition will form the two phases
as described above, with the second non-solubilizable portion of the therapeutic agent
dispersed or suspended in the aqueous system, and the first solubilizable portion of the
therapeutic agent solubilized in the composition. Alternatively, when the ultimate dosage
25 form is aqueous, the pre-concentrate can be prepared including only the first, solubilizable
portion of the therapeutic agent. This pre-concentrate can then be diluted in an aqueous
system to form a clear aqueous dispersion, to which is then added the second, non-
solubilizable portion of the therapeutic agent to form a multi-phase aqueous composition.

B. Methods

- 30 In another embodiment, the present invention relates to methods of increasing the
solubilization of a therapeutic agent in a composition, by providing the therapeutic agent
in a composition of the present invention. The composition can be any of the

- 1 compositions described herein, with or without a therapeutic agent. It is surprisingly found that by using the combinations of triglycerides and surfactants described herein, greater amounts of triglycerides can be solubilized, without resort to unacceptably high concentrations of hydrophilic surfactants.
- 5 In another embodiment, the present invention relates to methods of increasing the rate and/or extent of absorption of therapeutic agents by administering to a patient a pharmaceutical composition of the present invention. In this embodiment, the therapeutic agent can be present in the pharmaceutical composition pre-concentrate, in the diluent, or in a second pharmaceutical composition, such as a conventional commercial formulation,
- 10 10 which is co-administered with a pharmaceutical composition of the present invention. For example, the delivery of therapeutic agents in conventional pharmaceutical compositions can be improved by co-administering a pharmaceutical composition of the present invention with a conventional composition.

C. Characteristics of the Pharmaceutical Compositions

15 The dispersions formed upon dilution of the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention have the following characteristics:

Rapid formation: upon dilution with an aqueous solution, the composition forms a clear dispersion very rapidly; *i.e.*, the clear dispersion appears to form instantaneously.

20 Optical clarity: the dispersions are essentially optically clear to the naked eye, and show no readily observable signs of heterogeneity, such as turbidity or cloudiness. More quantitatively, dispersions of the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention have absorbances (400 nm) of less than about 0.3, and often less than about 0.1, at 100X dilution, as described more fully in the Examples herein. In the multi-phase embodiment of the compositions described herein, it should be appreciated that the optical clarity of the 25 aqueous phase will be obscured by the dispersed particulate non-solubilized therapeutic agent.

Robustness to dilution: the dispersions are surprisingly stable to dilution in aqueous solution. The hydrophobic therapeutic agent remains solubilized for at least the period of time relevant for absorption.

30 As discussed above, conventional triglyceride-containing formulations suffer the disadvantage that bioabsorption of the therapeutic agents contained therein is dependent upon enzymatic degradation (lipolysis) of the triglyceride components. The solubilization

- 1 of the triglyceride in an aqueous medium is usually limited if only a hydrophilic surfactant is used to disperse the triglyceride, as is conventional. Without a sufficiently high concentration of the hydrophilic surfactant, an emulsion or milky suspension of the triglyceride is formed, and the triglyceride is present in the form of relatively large oil
5 droplets. In this case, the large size of the triglyceride particles impedes the transport and absorption of the triglyceride or therapeutic agent solubilized in the triglyceride or in the carrier. In addition, the large, thermodynamically unstable triglyceride particles could further impose a risk when the compositions are administered intravenously, by plugging the blood capillaries.
- 10 To achieve a high level of fully-solubilized triglyceride would require an amount of the hydrophilic surfactant exceeding that which would be bioacceptable. The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention, however, solve these and other problems of the prior art by adding a third component, a hydrophobic surfactant or a second hydrophilic surfactant. The solubilization of the triglyceride in the aqueous system
15 is thereby unexpectedly enhanced. It is also unexpectedly found that the total amount of solubilized water-insoluble components, the triglyceride and hydrophobic surfactant, can greatly exceed the amount of the hydrophobic surfactant alone that can be solubilized using the same amount of the hydrophilic surfactant.

The unique pharmaceutical compositions and methods of the present invention
20 present a number of significant and unexpected advantages, including:

Increased safety: The present compositions and methods allow for increased levels of triglyceride relative to hydrophilic surfactants, thereby reducing the need for excessively large amounts of hydrophilic surfactant. Further, the triglyceride-containing compositions of the present invention present small particle sizes, thus avoiding the
25 problems of large particle size in conventional triglyceride-containing formulations and the concomitant safety concerns in parenteral administration.

Efficient transport: The particle sizes in the aqueous dispersions of the present invention are much smaller than the larger particles characteristic of vesicular, emulsion or microemulsion phases. This reduced particle size enables more efficient drug transport
30 through the intestinal aqueous boundary layer, and through the absorptive brush border membrane. More efficient transport to absorptive sites leads to improved and more consistent absorption of therapeutic agents.

1 Less-dependence on lipolysis: The lack of large particle-size triglyceride
components provides pharmaceutical compositions less dependent upon lipolysis, and
upon the many poorly characterized factors which affect the rate and extent of lipolysis,
for effective presentation of a therapeutic agent to an absorptive site. Such factors include
5 the presence of composition components which may inhibit lipolysis; patient conditions
which limit production of lipase, such as pancreatic lipase secretory diseases; and
dependence of lipolysis on stomach pH, endogenous calcium concentration, and presence
of co-lipase or other digestion enzymes. The reduced lipolysis dependence further
provides transport which is less prone to suffer from any lag time between administration
10 and absorption caused by the lipolysis process, enabling a more rapid onset of therapeutic
action and better bioperformance characteristics. In addition, pharmaceutical
compositions of the present invention can make use of hydrophilic surfactants which
might otherwise be avoided or limited due to their potential lipolysis inhibiting effects.

15 Non-dependence on bile and meal fat contents: Due to the higher solubilization
potential over bile salt micelles, the present compositions are less dependent on
endogenous bile and bile related patient disease states, and meal fat contents. These
advantages overcome meal-dependent absorption problems caused by poor patient
compliance with meal-dosage restrictions.

20 Superior solubilization: The triglyceride and surfactant combinations used in
compositions of the present invention enable superior loading capacity over conventional
formulations. In addition, the particular combination of surfactants used can be optimized
for a specific therapeutic agent to more closely match the polarity distribution of the
therapeutic agent, resulting in still further enhanced solubilization.

25 Faster dissolution and release: Due to the robustness of compositions of the
present invention to dilution, the therapeutic agents remain solubilized and thus do not
suffer problems of precipitation of the therapeutic agent in the time frame relevant for
absorption. In addition, the therapeutic agent is presented in small particle carriers, and is
not limited in dilution rate by entrapment in emulsion carriers. These factors avoid
liabilities associated with the poor partitioning of lipid solubilized drug in to the aqueous
30 phase, such as large emulsion droplet surface area, and high interfacial transfer resistance,
and enable rapid completion of the critical partitioning step.

1 Consistent performance: Aqueous dispersions of the present invention are thermodynamically stable for the time period relevant for absorption, and can be more predictably reproduced, thereby limiting variability in bioavailability-- a particularly important advantage for therapeutic agents with a narrow therapeutic index.

5 Efficient release: The compositions of the present invention are designed with components that help to keep the therapeutic agent or absorption promoter, such as a permeation enhancer, an enzyme inhibitor, etc., solubilized for transport to the absorption site, but readily available for absorption, thus providing a more efficient transport and release.

10 Less prone to gastric emptying delays: Unlike conventional triglyceride-containing formulations, the present compositions are less prone to gastric emptying delays, resulting in faster absorption. Further, the particles in dispersions of the present invention are less prone to unwanted retention in the gastro-intestinal tract.

15 Small size: Because of the small particle size in aqueous dispersion, the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention allow for faster transport of the therapeutic agent through the aqueous boundary layer.

These and other advantages of the present invention, as well as aspects of preferred embodiments, are illustrated more fully in the Examples which follow.

EXAMPLES

20 Example 1: Preparation of Compositions

A simple pre-concentrate is prepared as follows. Predetermined weighed amounts of the surfactants and triglyceride are stirred together to form a homogeneous mixture. For combinations that are poorly miscible, the mixture can be gently heated to aid in formation of the homogeneous mixture. If the composition is to include a therapeutic 25 agent, the chosen therapeutic agent in a predetermined amount is added and stirred until solubilized. Optionally, solubilizers or additives are included by simple mixing.

To form an aqueous dispersion of the pre-concentrate, a predetermined amount of purified water, buffer solution, or aqueous simulated physiological solution, is added to the pre-concentrate, and the resultant mixture is stirred to form a clear, aqueous dispersion.

1

Example 2: Triglyceride Solubilization in Conventional Formulations

Conventional formulations of a triglyceride and a hydrophilic surfactant were prepared for comparison to compositions of the present invention. For each surfactant-triglyceride pair, multiple dispersions were prepared with differing amounts of the two components, to determine the maximum amount of the triglyceride that can be present while the composition still forms a clear dispersion upon a 100-fold dilution with distilled water. No therapeutic agent was included in these compositions, since it is believed that the presence of the therapeutic agent does not substantially affect the clear, aqueous nature of composition. For the same reason, these compositions were free of additional solubilizers and other additives. The optical clarity was determined by visual inspection and/or by UV absorption (at 400 nm). When UV absorption was used, compositions were considered to be clear when the absorption was less than about 0.2.

Table 20 shows the maximum amount of triglyceride present in such binary mixtures forming clear aqueous dispersions. The numerical entries in the Table are in units of grams of triglyceride per 100 grams of hydrophilic surfactant.

Table 20: Binary Triglyceride-Surfactant Solubility

Hydrophilic Surfactant	PEG-35 Castor Oil (Incrocas 35)	PEG-40H Castor Oil (Cremophor RH-40)	PEG-6 Caprate/Caprylate (Softigen 767)	PEG-60 Corn Oil (Crovil M-70)	PEG-45 Palm Kernel Oil (Crovil PK-70)	Polysorbate -20 (Tween 20)	Polysorbate 80 (Tween 80)
Triglyceride							
Corn Oil (Croda, Super Refined)	10	25	3	5	8	2	10
Soybean Oil (Croda, Super Refined)	10	25	3	8	8	2	10
Glyceryl Tricaprylate/Caprate (Captex 300)	60	40	8	30	25	20	45
Glyceryl Tricaprylate/Caprate (Captex 355)	70	40	5	55	30	20	55
Glyceryl Tricaprylate/Caprate/Laurate (Captex 350)	70	60	5	55	25	10	50

1	Glyceryl Tricaprylate/ Caprate/Linoleate (Captex 810D)	30	40	3	25	15	2	25
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5 Example 3: Effect of Surfactant Combinations

The procedure of Example 2 was repeated for compositions containing PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil (Cremophor RH 40) or polysorbate 80 (Tween 80) as the hydrophilic surfactant, but substituting a second hydrophilic surfactant (compositions number 6-7 and 14-16) or a hydrophobic surfactant (compositions number 4-5, 8-9, and 10 17-18) for part of the hydrophilic surfactant. The total amount of hydrophilic surfactant was kept constant. The results are summarized in Table 21.

Table 21A: Effects of Surfactant Combinations on the Solubilization of Triglycerides

Composition in w/w ratio										
15		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Corn Oil	25	30	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
	Cremophor RH-40	100	100	100	77	71	67	57	62	57
	Peceol	---	---	---	23	29	---	---	---	---
20	Kessco PEG 400 MO	---	---	---	---	---	33	43	---	---
	Crovol M-40	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38	43
	Appearance of the Concentrate	Clear	Hazy	Hazy	Clear	Clear	Clear	Hazy	Hazy	
25	Abs @ 400 nm of the 100X (w/v) Dilution in Deionized Water	0.148	2.195	2.518	0.121	0.132	0.124	0.102	0.233	0.167

Table 21B

Composition in w/w ratio										
30		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Corn Oil	10	15	20	30	15	20	30	20	25

66

1	Tween 80	100	100	100	100	67	67	67	67
	Kessco PEG 400 MO	---	---	---	---	33	33	33	---
	Crovol M-40	---	---	---	---	---	---	33	33
5	Appearance of the Concentrate	Clear	Clear	Hazy	Hazy	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
	Abs @ 400 nm of the 100X (w/v) Dilution in Deionized Water	0.002	1.314	1.613	1.654	0.041	0.019	0.194	0.057
10									

The clear or hazy appearance noted in the Table is that of the pre-concentrate, not of the aqueous dispersion. The clarity of the aqueous dispersion is shown quantitatively by UV absorption of the 100X dilution at 400 nm.

Comparing compositions 1-3, a binary corn oil-Cremophor RH-40 mixture having 15 25 grams of corn oil per 100 grams of the surfactant is optically clear, having an absorption of 0.148. However, upon a slight increase of the amount of corn oil to 30 grams, the dispersion becomes cloudy, with an absorbance of 2.195, indicating the formation of a conventional emulsion. Compositions 4-5 show the surprising result that when part of the hydrophilic Cremophor RH-40 is replaced by a hydrophobic surfactant 20 (Peceol), keeping the total surfactant concentration constant, compositions having a much higher amount of triglyceride (40 grams) still form clear aqueous dispersions, with absorbances less than 0.2 and dramatically less than the comparable binary composition number 3. A similar result is shown in compositions 8-9 for a different hydrophobic surfactant, Crovol M-40. Likewise, when part of the hydrophilic surfactant is replaced by 25 a second hydrophilic surfactant in compositions 6-7, it is surprisingly found that the amount of triglyceride solubilized is similarly increased.

The second part of the Table, Table 21B, shows a similar surprising result for a different hydrophilic surfactant, Tween 80. Simple binary corn oil-Tween 80 mixtures form clear aqueous dispersions with 10 grams of corn oil, but are cloudy and multi-phasic 30 with 15 grams or more of the triglyceride. As the Table shows, substitution of part of the hydrophilic surfactant with a second hydrophilic surfactant or a hydrophobic surfactant dramatically increases the amount of triglyceride that can be solubilized.

1

Example 4: Effect of Surfactant Combinations

Example 3 was repeated, using different triglyceride-surfactant combinations. In particular, medium-chain triglycerides (MCTs) were used instead of corn oil, a long-chain triglyceride (LCT). The results are shown in the three-part Table 22.

5

Table 22A: Solubilization of MCTs

		Composition in w/w ratio				
		19	20	21	22	23
10	Pureco 76	33	50	80	50	80
	Cremophor RH-40	100	100	100	40	100
	Imwitor 988	---	---	---	60	100
	Ethanol	---	---	---	---	33
Appearance of the Concentrate		Clear	Clear	Hazy	Clear	Clear
15	Abs @ 400 nm of the 100X (w/v)	0.201	0.346	2.522	0.204	0.098
Dilution in Deionized Water						

Table 22B

		Composition in w/w ratio			
		24	25	26	27
20	Captex 300	40	75	75	75
	Cremophor RH-40	100	100	50	100
	Imwitor 988	---	---	50	75
	Appearance of the Concentrate	Clear	Hazy	Clear	Clear
Abs @ 400 nm of the 100X (w/v)		0.180	0.557	0.208	0.078
Dilution in Deionized Water					

1

Table 22C

5

		Composition in w/w ratio					
		28	29	30	31	32	33
5	Captex 300	20	25	33	30	40	40
	Tween 20	100	100	100	70	70	66
	Brij 30	---	---	---	30	30	34
	Appearance of the Concentrate	Clear	Hazy	Hazy	Clear	Clear	Clear
10	Abs @ 400 nm of the 100X (w/v) Dilution in Deionized Water	0.078	1.192	2.536	0.017	0.234	0.103

10

Table 22 shows that the increased solubilization of the triglyceride is observed for MCTs as well as for LCTs, with a variety of surfactants. Table 22 additionally shows that the same effect is observed in the presence of increased amounts of surfactants (compositions 23 and 27) and solubilizers (composition 23).

20

Example 5: Characterization of Compositions

Various compositions were prepared and characterized by visual observation as well as by UV absorbance at 400 nm. Each composition was diluted 100-fold with distilled water. The results are shown in Table 23.

20

Table 23: Visual and Spectroscopic Characterization

25

25

30

No.	Composition	Visual Observation	Absorbance at 400 nm
24	Soybean Oil 80 mg	Very clear solution	0.014
	Tween 20 200 mg		
	Tween 80 800 mg		
25	Captex 810D 250 mg	Very clear solution	0.030
	Incrocas 35 500 mg		
	Tween 80 500 mg		
26	Captex 810D 200 mg	Clear solution	0.157
	Incrocas 35 667 mg		

1	Myvacet 9-45	333 mg		
5	27	Corn Oil	250 mg	0.085
		Cremophor RH-40	750 mg	
		Peceol	150 mg	
		Propylene Glycol	100 mg	
10	28	Captex 355	200 mg	0.212
		Labrafil M2125CS	300 mg	
		Cremophor RH-40	500 mg	
		Ethanol	100 mg	
15	29	Captex 355	150 mg	0.141
		Cremophor RH-40	600 mg	
		Labrafil M2125CS	250 mg	
		Ethanol	100 mg	
20	30	Captex 355	300 mg	0.241
		Incrocas 35	500 mg	
		Labrafil M2125CS	200 mg	
		Ethanol	100 mg	
25	31	Captex 355	250 mg	0.076
		Incrocas 35	600 mg	
		Labrafil M2125CS	150 mg	
		Ethanol	100 mg	
30	32	Pureco 76	160 mg	0.168
		Cremophor RH-40	480 mg	
		Labrafil M2125CS	160 mg	
		Ethanol	150 mg	

1

Example 6: Comparative Example

Prior art formulations were prepared for comparison with the compositions of the present invention. As in Example 5, the compositions were diluted 100-fold with distilled water, and characterized by visual observation and by UV absorbance. The results are
5 shown in Table 24.

Table 24: Compositions Not Forming Clear Aqueous Dispersions

	Compositon		Visual Observation	Absorbance at 400 nm
10	33	Corn Oil 400 mg Cremophor RH-40 710 mg Crovol M-40 290 mg	Milky suspension	1.989
	34	Captex 300 300 mg Tween 20 650 mg Imwitor 988 350 mg	Milky suspension	1.594
	35	Corn Oil 400 mg Cremophor RH-40 620 mg Labrafil M2125CS 380 mg	Milky suspension	2.716
20	36	Soybean Oil 185 mg Captex GTO 275 mg Tween 80 275 mg Triacetin 185 mg	Milky suspension	2.595
	37	Pureco 76 315 mg Cremophor RH-40 225 mg Span 20 360 mg	Milky suspension	2.912
	38	Soybean Oil 340 mg Captex GTO 280 mg Tween 80 280 mg	Milky suspension	2.566
	39	Pureco 76 330 mg		

1		Labrasol	120 mg	Milky suspension	2.233
5	40	Corn Oil	400 mg	Milky suspension	2.249
		Cremophor RH-40	570 mg		
		Lauroglycol FCC	430 mg		
10	41	Soybean Oil	160 mg	Milky suspension	2.867
		Tween 80	200 mg		
		Imwitor 988	450 mg		
		Ethanol	150 mg		
15	42	Corn Oil	200 mg	Milky suspension	1.547
		Tween 80	570 mg		
		Kessco PEG 400 MO	430 mg		

15 As the Table shows, conventional formulations such as those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,645,856, form milky suspensions rather than the clear aqueous dispersions of the present invention.

Example 7: Formulations with Therapeutic Agents

Table 25 shows several formulations of compositions that can be prepared
20 according to the present invention, using a variety of therapeutic agents.

Table 25: Formulations

No.	Composition (g)	
25	43	Cremophor RH-40
		Peceol
		Corn Oil NF
		Fenofibrate
30	44	Cremophor RH-40
		Crovol M-40
		Corn Oil NF
		Rofecoxib

1	45	Cremophor RH-40 Kessco PEG 400 MO Soybean Oil NF Nabumetone	0.57 0.43 0.40 0.30
5	46	Tween 80 Tween 85 Miglyol 812 Paclitaxel PEG 400	0.70 0.35 0.30 0.10 0.25
10	47	Cremophor RH-40 Imwitor 988 Captex 300 Cyclosporin A Propylene Glycol	0.50 0.50 0.75 0.20 0.15
15	48	Tween 20 Brij 30 Captex 355 Retinoic Acid	0.66 0.34 0.40 0.02
20	49	Tween 80 Kessco PEG 400 MO Corn Oil Terbinafine	0.67 0.33 0.30 0.25
25			

1	50	Crovol M-70	0.67
		Crovol M-40	0.33
		Captex 350	0.75
5		Progesterone	0.10
		Ethanol	0.15
	51	Labrasol	0.30
		Gelucire 44/14	0.70
10		Dronabinol	0.02
		Ethanol	0.10
	52	Incrocas 35	0.80
		Arlacel 186	0.20
15		Miglyol 818	0.45
		Alendronate sodium	0.04
		Water	0.10
	53	Cremophor RH-40	0.62
		Capmul MCM	0.38
20		Miglyol 810	0.25
		Heparin sodium	0.03
		Water	0.10
		PEG 400	0.05

25

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from its spirit or essential characteristics. The described embodiments are to be considered in all respects only as illustrative and not restrictive. The scope of the invention is, therefore, indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing 30 description. All changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be embraced within their scope.

What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
 - (a) a triglyceride;
 - (b) a carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the surfactants being hydrophilic; and
 - 5 (c) a therapeutic agent which is capable of being solubilized in the triglyceride, the carrier, or both the triglyceride and the carrier,
wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion.
- 10 2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride is selected from the group consisting of vegetable oils, fish oils, animal fats, hydrogenated vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, synthetic triglycerides, modified triglycerides, fractionated triglycerides, and mixtures thereof.
- 15 3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride is selected from the group consisting of almond oil; babassu oil; borage oil; blackcurrant seed oil; canola oil; castor oil; coconut oil; corn oil; cottonseed oil; evening primrose oil; grapeseed oil; groundnut oil; mustard seed oil; olive oil; palm oil; palm kernel oil; peanut oil; rapeseed oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; shark liver oil; soybean oil; sunflower oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil; hydrogenated palm oil; hydrogenated soybean oil; hydrogenated vegetable oil; hydrogenated cottonseed and castor oil; partially hydrogenated soybean oil; partially soy and cottonseed oil; glyceryl tricaproate; glyceryl tricaprylate; glyceryl tricaprate; glyceryl triundecanoate; glyceryl trilaurate; glyceryl trioleate; glyceryl trilinoleate; glyceryl trilinolenate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glyceryl 20 tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides; caprylic/capric glycerides; modified triglycerides; fractionated triglycerides; and mixtures thereof.
- 25 4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride is selected from the group consisting of coconut oil; corn oil; olive oil; palm oil; peanut oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; soybean oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil; partially hydrogenated soybean oil; glyceryl tricaprante; glyceryl trilaurate; glyceryl trioleate; glyceryl trilinoleate; glyceryl trilinolenate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate; glyceryl

1 tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glyceryl
tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides;
caprylic/capric glycerides; modified triglycerides; fractionated triglycerides; and mixtures
thereof.

5 5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride is a
medium chain triglyceride, a long chain triglyceride, a modified triglyceride, a
fractionated triglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant comprises at least one non-ionic hydrophilic surfactant having an HLB value
10 greater than or equal to about 10.

7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant comprises at least one ionic surfactant.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, which further comprises at
least one ionic surfactant.

15 9. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the non-ionic
surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkylglucosides; alkylmaltosides;
alkylthioglucosides; lauryl macrogolglycerides; polyoxyethylene alkyl ethers;
polyoxyethylene alkylphenols; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol
glycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-
20 polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyglycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene
glycerides; polyoxyethylene sterols, derivatives, and analogues thereof; polyoxyethylene
vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols
and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils,
hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; sugar esters, sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; and
25 mixtures thereof.

10. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the non-ionic
hydrophilic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene
alkylethers; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid
esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene
30 block copolymers; polyglycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides;
polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction

1 mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.

11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein the glyceride is a monoglyceride, diglyceride, triglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

5 12. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein the reaction mixture comprises the transesterification products of a polyol and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

10 13. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein the polyol is glycerol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, pentaerythritol, a saccharide, or a mixture thereof.

14. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic surfactant is PEG-10 laurate, PEG-12 laurate, PEG-20 laurate, PEG-32 laurate, PEG-32 dilaurate, PEG-12 oleate, PEG-15 oleate, PEG-20 oleate, PEG-20 dioleate, PEG-32 oleate, 15 PEG-200 oleate, PEG-400 oleate, PEG-15 stearate, PEG-32 distearate, PEG-40 stearate, PEG-100 stearate, PEG-20 dilaurate, PEG-25 glycetyl trioleate, PEG-32 dioleate, PEG-20 glycetyl laurate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-20 glycetyl stearate, PEG-20 glycetyl oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-40 glycetyl laurate, PEG-40 palm kernel oil, PEG-50 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-40 castor oil, PEG-35 castor oil, 20 PEG-60 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides, polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-30 cholesterol, PEG-25 phyto sterol, PEG-30 soya sterol, PEG-20 trioleate, PEG-40 sorbitan oleate, PEG-80 sorbitan laurate, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, POE-20 25 oleyl ether, POE-20 stearyl ether, tocopheryl PEG-100 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol, polyglyceryl-10 oleate, Tween 40, Tween 60, sucrose monostearate, sucrose monolaurate, sucrose monopalmitate, PEG 10-100 nonyl phenol series, PEG 15-100 octyl phenol series, a poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.

15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic 30 surfactant is PEG-20 laurate, PEG-20 oleate, PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 palm kernel oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-25 glycetyl trioleate, polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate

1 glycerides, PEG-30 cholesterol, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-
23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, PEG-24 cholesterol, sucrose monostearate, sucrose
monolaurate, a poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic
5 surfactant is PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-25
glyceryl trioleate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides,
polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, tocopheryl PEG-1000 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol, a
poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the ionic surfactant is
10 selected from the group consisting of alkyl ammonium salts; bile salts, analogues, and
derivatives thereof; fusidic acid and derivatives thereof; fatty acid derivatives of amino
acids, oligopeptides, and polypeptides; glyceride derivatives of amino acids, oligopeptides,
and polypeptides; acyl lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono-,
15 diglycerides; succinylated monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides;
alginate salts; propylene glycol alginate; lecithins and hydrogenated lecithins; lysolecithin
and hydrogenated lysolecithins; lysophospholipids and derivatives thereof; carnitine fatty
acid ester salts; phospholipids and derivatives thereof; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty
acids; sodium docusate; and mixtures thereof.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the ionic surfactant is
20 selected from the group consisting of bile acids and salts, analogues, and derivatives
thereof; lecithins, lysolecithin, phospholipids, lysophospholipids and derivatives thereof;
carnitine fatty acid ester salts; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty acids; sodium docusate;
acyl lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; succinylated
25 monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; and mixtures thereof.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the ionic surfactant is
selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lysolecithin, phosphatidylcholine,
phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidic acid, phosphatidylserine,
lysophosphatidylcholine, lysophosphatidylethanolamine, lysophosphatidylglycerol,
lysophosphatidic acid, lysophosphatidylserine, PEG-phosphatidylethanolamine, PVP-
30 phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl
lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of
mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate, taurocholate,

- 1 glycocholate, deoxycholate, taurodeoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate, glycodeoxycholate,
glycochenodeoxycholate, taurochenodeoxycholate, ursodeoxycholate, lithocholate,
tauroursodeoxycholate, glycoursodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, N-methyl taurocholate,
caproate, caprylate, caprate, laurate, myristate, palmitate, oleate, ricinoleate, linoleate,
5 linolenate, stearate, lauryl sulfate, tetraacetyl sulfate, docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl
carnitine, myristoyl carnitine, and salts and mixtures thereof.

20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lysolecithin, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, lysophosphatidylcholine, PEG-
10 phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl
lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of
mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate, taurocholate,
glycocholate, deoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate, lithocholate, ursodeoxycholate,
taurodeoxycholate, glycodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, caproate, caprylate, caprate,
15 laurate, oleate, lauryl sulfate, docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl carnitine, myristoyl
carnitine, and salts and mixtures thereof.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid
20 esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, chenodeoxycholate,
lithocholate, ursodeoxycholate, taurocholate, caprylate, caprate, oleate, lauryl sulfate,
docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl carnitine, myristoyl carnitine, and salts and mixtures
thereof.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises
25 at least two hydrophilic surfactants.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least one hydrophobic surfactant.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic
surfactant is a compound or mixture of compounds having an HLB value less than about
30 10.

25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic
surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alcohols; polyoxyethylene alkylethers;

- 1 fatty acids; bile acids; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lower alcohol fatty acid esters; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; propylene glycol diglycerides;
- 5 sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; transesterified vegetable oils; sterols; sterol derivatives; sugar esters; sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated
- 10 vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids; bile acids; lower alcohol fatty acid esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.

27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of bile acids; lower alcohol fatty acids esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; propylene glycol fatty acid esters; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; and mixtures thereof.

28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is a glycerol fatty acid ester, an acetylated glycerol fatty acid ester, or a mixture thereof.

29. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 28, wherein the glycerol fatty acid ester is a monoglyceride, diglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

1 30. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 29, wherein the fatty acid of the glycerol fatty acid ester is a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid or a mixture thereof.

5 31. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is a reaction mixture of a polyol and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 31, wherein the reaction mixture is a transesterification product of a polyol and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

10 33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 31, wherein the polyol is polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, pentaerythritol, a saccharide, or a mixture thereof.

15 34. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid; oleic acid; lauric acid; stearic acid; palmitic acid; PEG 1-4 stearate; PEG 2-4 oleate; PEG-4 dilaurate; PEG-4 dioleate; PEG-4 distearate; PEG-6 dioleate; PEG-6 distearate; PEG-8 dioleate; PEG 3-16 castor oil; PEG 5-10 hydrogenated castor oil; PEG 6-20 corn oil; PEG 6-20 almond oil; PEG-6 olive oil; PEG-6 peanut oil; PEG-6 palm kernel oil; PEG-6 hydrogenated palm kernel oil; PEG-4 capric/caprylic triglyceride, mono, di, tri, tetra esters of vegetable oil and sorbitol; pentaerythrityl di, tetra stearate, isostearate, oleate, caprylate, or caprate; 20 polyglyceryl 2-4 oleate, stearate, or isostearate; polyglyceryl 4-10 pentaoleate; polyglyceryl-3 dioleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; polyglyceryl-10 trioleate; polyglyceryl-3 distearate; propylene glycol mono- or diesters of a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; monoglycerides of a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; acetylated monoglycerides of C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; diglycerides of C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acids; lactic acid derivatives of monoglycerides; lactic acid derivatives of 25 diglycerides; cholesterol; phytosterol; PEG 5-20 soya sterol; PEG-6 sorbitan tetra, hexastearate; PEG-6 sorbitan tetraoleate; sorbitan monolaurate; sorbitan monopalmitate; sorbitan mono, trioleate; sorbitan mono, tristearate; sorbitan monoisostearate; sorbitan sesquioleate; sorbitan sesquistearate; PEG 2-5 oleyl ether; POE 2-4 lauryl ether; PEG-2 cetyl ether; PEG-2 stearyl ether; sucrose distearate; sucrose dipalmitate; ethyl oleate; 30 isopropyl myristate; isopropyl palmitate; ethyl linoleate; isopropyl linoleate; poloxamers; cholic acid; ursodeoxycholic acid; glycocholic acid; taurocholic acid; lithocholic acid; deoxycholic acid; chenodeoxycholic acid; and mixtures thereof.

1 35. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of oleic acid; lauric acid; glyceryl monocaprate; glyceryl monocaprylate; glyceryl monolaurate; glyceryl monooleate; glyceryl dicaprate; glyceryl dicaprylate; glyceryl dilaurate; glyceryl dioleate; acetylated 5 monoglycerides; propylene glycol oleate; propylene glycol laurate; polyglyceryl-3 oleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; PEG-6 corn oil; PEG-20 corn oil; PEG-20 almond oil; sorbitan monooleate; sorbitan monolaurate; POE-4 lauryl ether; POE-3 oleyl ether; ethyl oleate; poloxamers; choic acid; ursodeoxycholic acid; glycocholic acid; taurocholic acid; lithocholic acid; deoxycholic acid; chenodeoxycholic acid; and mixtures thereof.

10 36. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a drug, a vitamin, a nutritional supplement, a cosmeceutical, or a mixture thereof.

37. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug.

38. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein the hydrophobic 15 drug has a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a hydrophilic drug.

40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein the hydrophilic drug is a peptidomimetic, a peptide, a protein, an oligonucleotide, an oligodeoxynucleotide, 20 RNA, DNA, genetic material, derivatives or analogues thereof, or a mixture thereof.

41. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 39, wherein the hydrophilic drug has a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

42. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the surfactants are present in amounts such that the triglyceride can be present in an amount greater than the 25 amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and a carrier having only one surfactant, the surfactant being hydrophilic, and having the same total surfactant concentration.

43. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the surfactants are present in amounts such that the triglyceride can be present in an amount greater than the 30 amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and a carrier having only one surfactant, the surfactant being hydrophilic, and having the same total surfactant concentration.

1 44. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the surfactants are
present in amounts such that the triglyceride can be present in an amount greater than the
amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the
triglyceride and a carrier having a hydrophilic surfactant but not having a hydrophobic
5 surfactant, and having the same total surfactant concentration.

45. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride and
surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution in an
aqueous solution to composition ratio of about 10:1 by weight, the composition forms a
clear aqueous dispersion.

10 46. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the triglyceride and
surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution in an
aqueous solution to composition ratio of about 100:1 by weight, the composition forms a
clear aqueous dispersion.

15 47. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 46, wherein the clear aqueous
dispersion has an absorbance of less than about 0.3 at about 400 nm.

48. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47, wherein the absorbance is
less than about 0.2.

49. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47, wherein the absorbance is
less than about 0.1.

20 50. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which further comprises a
solubilizer.

51. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein the solubilizer is
selected from the group consisting of alcohols, polyols, amides, esters, propylene glycol
ethers and mixtures thereof.

25 52. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 51, wherein the alcohol or polyol
is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol,
ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, butanediols and isomers thereof, glycerol,
pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, maltol, maltodextrins, dimethyl isosorbide,
polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl
30 methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and cyclodextrin
derivatives, and mixtures thereof.

1 53. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 51, wherein the amide is selected from the group consisting of 2-pyrrolidone, 2-piperidone, ϵ -caprolactam, N-alkylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyalkylpyrrolidone, N-alkylpiperidone, N-alkylcaprolactam, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

5 54. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 51, wherein the ester is selected from the group consisting of ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, acetyl triethylcitrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, ethyl butyrate, triacetin, propylene glycol monoacetate, propylene glycol diacetate, ϵ -caprolactone and isomers thereof, δ -valerolactone and isomers thereof, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, and mixtures thereof.

10 55. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein the solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, butanediol and isomers thereof, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, 15 polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and derivatives thereof, ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, acetyl triethylcitrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, ethyl butyrate, triacetin, propylene glycol diacetate, ϵ -caprolactone and isomers thereof, δ -valerolactone and isomers thereof, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, 20 2-pyrrolidone, 2-piperidone, ϵ -caprolactam, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-ethylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethyl pyrrolidone, N-octylpyrrolidone, N-laurylpyrrolidone, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, glycofurool, methoxy PEG, and mixtures thereof.

25 56. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein the solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 1,3-butanediol, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, glycofurool, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcyclodextrins, sulfobutyl ether derivatives of cyclodextrins, ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, triacetin, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, 2-pyrrolidone, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-ethylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidone, N-octylpyrrolidone, 30 N-laurylpyrrolidone, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

1 57. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein the solubilizer is triacetin, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cyclodextrins, ethanol, polyethylene glycol 200-600, 5 glycofurool, transcutol, propylene glycol, dimethyl isosorbide, or a mixture thereof.

58. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 50, wherein the solubilizer is triacetin, ethanol, polyethylene glycol 400, glycofurool, propylene glycol or a mixture thereof.

59. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which further comprises an 10 antioxidant, a bufferant, an antifoaming agent, a detackifier, a preservative, a chelating agent, a viscomodulator, a tonicifier, a flavorant, a colorant, an odorant, an opacifier, a suspending agent, a binder, a filler, a plasticizer, a lubricant, or a mixture thereof.

60. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which further comprises an amount of an enzyme inhibiting agent sufficient to at least partially inhibit enzymatic 15 degradation of the therapeutic agent.

61. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 60, wherein the enzyme inhibitor is solubilized or suspended in the preconcentrate.

62. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which further comprises an aqueous medium comprising water, an aqueous palatable diluent or an aqueous beverage.

20 63. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 62, wherein the therapeutic agent is provided to the composition in the aqueous medium.

64. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 62, wherein the aqueous medium further comprises an amount of an enzyme inhibiting agent sufficient to at least partially inhibit enzymatic degradation of the therapeutic agent.

25 65. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 in the form of a preconcentrate in a liquid, semi-solid, or solid form, or as an aqueous or organic diluted preconcentrate.

66. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 processed by lyophilization, encapsulation, extruding, compression, melting, molding, spraying, coating, comminution, mixing, homogenization, sonication, granulation, or a 30 combination thereof.

67. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 formulated as a pill, capsule, caplet, tablet, granule, bead or powder.

- 1 68. The dosage form of claim 67, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, a hard gelatin capsule or a soft gelatin capsule.
69. The dosage form of claim 67, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.
- 5 70. The dosage form of claim 67, which further comprises an enteric coating, a
seal coating, or both.
71. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1
formulated as a solution, suspension, emulsion, cream, ointment, lotion, suppository,
spray, aerosol, paste, gel, drops, douche, ovule, wafer, troche, cachet, syrup or elixer.
- 10 72. A dosage form comprising a multiparticulate carrier coated onto a substrate
with the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1.
73. The dosage form of claim 72, wherein the substrate is a particle, a granule
or a bead, and is formed of the therapeutic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable material,
or a mixture thereof.
- 15 74. The dosage form of claim 72, wherein the multiparticulate carrier is enteric
coated, seal coated, or both.
75. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, which further comprises an
additional amount of the therapeutic agent, said additional amount not solubilized in the
composition.
- 20 76. The dosage form of claim 72, wherein the dosage form is further processed
by encapsulation, compression, extrusion or molding.
77. The dosage form of claim 72, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, a hard gelatin capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.
- 25 78. The dosage form of claim 72, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.
79. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- (a) a triglyceride;
- (b) a carrier comprising at least one hydrophilic surfactant and at least
one hydrophobic surfactant; and
- 30 (c) a therapeutic agent which is capable of being solubilized in the
triglyceride, the carrier, or both the triglyceride and the carrier,

1 wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that
upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous
dispersion.

5 80. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of vegetable oils, fish oils, animal fats, hydrogenated
vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, synthetic triglycerides, modified
triglycerides, fractionated triglycerides, and mixtures thereof.

10 81. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of almond oil; babassu oil; borage oil; blackcurrant
seed oil; canola oil; castor oil; coconut oil; corn oil; cottonseed oil; evening primrose oil;
grapeseed oil; groundnut oil; mustard seed oil; olive oil; palm oil; palm kernel oil; peanut
oil; rapeseed oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; shark liver oil; soybean oil; sunflower oil;
hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil; hydrogenated palm oil; hydrogenated
soybean oil; hydrogenated vegetable oil; hydrogenated cottonseed and castor oil; partially
15 hydrogenated soybean oil; partially soy and cottonseed oil; glycetyl tricaproate; glycetyl
tricaprylate; glycetyl tricaprate; glycetyl triundecanoate; glycetyl trilaurate; glycetyl
trioleate; glycetyl trilinoleate; glycetyl trilolenate; glycetyl tricaprylate/caprate; glycetyl
tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glycetyl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glycetyl
tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides;
20 caprylic/capric glycerides; modified triglycerides; fractionated triglycerides; and mixtures
thereof.

25 82. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of coconut oil; corn oil; olive oil; palm oil; peanut oil;
safflower oil; sesame oil; soybean oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil;
partially hydrogenated soybean oil; glycetyl tricaprante; glycetyl trilaurate; glycetyl
trioleate; glycetyl trilinoleate; glycetyl tricaprylate/caprate; glycetyl
tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glycetyl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glycetyl
tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides;
caprylic/capric glycerides; modified triglycerides; fractionated triglycerides; and mixtures
30 thereof.

1 83. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride is a
medium chain triglyceride, a long chain triglyceride, a modified triglyceride, a
fractionated triglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

5 84. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant comprises at least one non-ionic hydrophilic surfactant having an HLB value
greater than or equal to about 10.

85. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant comprises at least one ionic surfactant.

10 86. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, which further comprises at
least one ionic surfactant.

15 87. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the non-ionic
surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkylglucosides; alkylmaltosides;
alkylthioglucosides; lauryl macrogolglycerides; polyoxyethylene alkyl ethers;
polyoxyethylene alkylphenols; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol
20 glycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-
polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyglycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene
glycerides; polyoxyethylene sterols, derivatives, and analogues thereof; polyoxyethylene
vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols
and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils,
25 hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; sugar esters, sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; and
mixtures thereof.

25 88. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the non-ionic
hydrophilic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene
alkylethers; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid
block copolymers; polyglycerol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides;
polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction
mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids,
glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.

30 89. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the glyceride is a
monoglyceride, diglyceride, triglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

- 1 90. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 88, wherein the reaction mixture
comprises the transesterification products of a polyol and at least one member of the group
consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and
sterols.
- 5 91. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 88, wherein the polyol is
glycerol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, pentaerythritol,
a saccharide, or a mixture thereof.
- 10 92. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant is PEG-10 laurate, PEG-12 laurate, PEG-20 laurate, PEG-32 laurate, PEG-32
dilaurate, PEG-12 oleate, PEG-15 oleate, PEG-20 oleate, PEG-20 dioleate, PEG-32 oleate,
PEG-200 oleate, PEG-400 oleate, PEG-15 stearate, PEG-32 distearate, PEG-40 stearate,
PEG-100 stearate, PEG-20 dilaurate, PEG-25 glycetyl trioleate, PEG-32 dioleate, PEG-20
glycetyl laurate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-20 glycetyl stearate, PEG-20 glycetyl
oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl oleate, PEG-30 glycetyl laurate, PEG-40 glycetyl laurate, PEG-
15 40 palm kernel oil, PEG-50 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-40 castor oil, PEG-35 castor oil,
PEG-60 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 hydrogenated castor oil,
PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides,
polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-30 cholesterol, PEG-25 phyto sterol, PEG-30 soya sterol,
PEG-20 trioleate, PEG-40 sorbitan oleate, PEG-80 sorbitan laurate, polysorbate 20,
20 polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, POE-20
oleyl ether, POE-20 stearyl ether, tocopheryl PEG-100 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol,
polyglyceryl-10 oleate, Tween 40, Tween 60, sucrose monostearate, sucrose monolaurate,
sucrose monopalmitate, PEG 10-100 nonyl phenol series, PEG 15-100 octyl phenol series,
a poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.
- 25 93. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the hydrophilic
surfactant is PEG-20 laurate, PEG-20 oleate, PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 palm kernel oil,
PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-25 glycetyl trioleate,
polyglyceryl-10 laurate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate
glycerides, PEG-30 cholesterol, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, POE-9 lauryl ether, POE-
30 23 lauryl ether, POE-10 oleyl ether, PEG-24 cholesterol, sucrose monostearate, sucrose
monolaurate, a poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.

1 94. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein the hydrophilic surfactant is PEG-35 castor oil, PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil, PEG-60 corn oil, PEG-25 glyceryl trioleate, PEG-6 caprate/caprylate glycerides, PEG-8 caprate/caprylate glycerides, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 80, tocopheryl PEG-1000 succinate, PEG-24 cholesterol, a
5 poloxamer, or a mixture thereof.

95. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkyl ammonium salts; bile salts, analogues, and derivatives thereof; fusidic acid and derivatives thereof; fatty acid derivatives of amino acids, oligopeptides, and polypeptides; glyceride derivatives of amino acids, oligopeptides,
10 and polypeptides; acyl lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; succinylated monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; alginate salts; propylene glycol alginate; lecithins and hydrogenated lecithins; lysolecithin and hydrogenated lysolecithins; lysophospholipids and derivatives thereof; carnitine fatty acid ester salts; phospholipids and derivatives thereof; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty
15 acids; sodium docusate; and mixtures thereof.

96. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of bile salts, analogues, and derivatives thereof; lecithins, lysolecithin, phospholipids, lysophospholipids and derivatives thereof; carnitine fatty acid ester salts; salts of alkylsulfates; salts of fatty acids; sodium docusate; acyl
20 lactylates; mono-,diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; succinylated monoglycerides; citric acid esters of mono-,diglycerides; and mixtures thereof.

97. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lysolecithin, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidic acid, phosphatidylserine,
25 lysophosphatidylcholine, lysophosphatidylethanolamine, lysophosphatidylglycerol, lysophosphatidic acid, lysophosphatidylserine, PEG-phosphatidylethanolamine, PVP-phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate, chenodeoxycholate,
30 lithocholate, ursodeoxycholate, taurocholate, glycocholate, deoxycholate, taurodeoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate, glycodeoxycholate, glycochenodeoxycholate, taurochenodeoxycholate, ursodeoxycholate, lithocholate, taurooursodeoxycholate,

- 1 glycoursoodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, N-methyl taurocholate, caproate, caprylate, caprate, laurate, myristate, palmitate, oleate, ricinoleate, linoleate, linolenate, stearate, lauryl sulfate, tetraacetyl sulfate, docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl carnitine, myristoyl carnitine, and salts and mixtures thereof.
- 5 98. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lysolecithin, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylglycerol, lysophosphatidylcholine, PEG-phosphatidylethanolamine, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of
- 10 mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, cholate, taurocholate, glycocholate, deoxycholate, taurodeoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate, lithocholate, ursodeoxycholate, glycodeoxycholate, cholylsarcosine, caproate, caprylate, caprate, laurate, oleate, lauryl sulfate, docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl carnitine, myristoyl carnitine, and salts and mixtures thereof.
- 15 99. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein the ionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, lactylic esters of fatty acids, stearoyl-2-lactylate, stearoyl lactylate, succinylated monoglycerides, mono/diacetylated tartaric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, citric acid esters of mono/diglycerides, chenodeoxycholate, lithocholate, ursodeoxycholate, taurocholate, caprylate, caprate, oleate, lauryl sulfate,
- 20 docusate, lauroyl carnitine, palmitoyl carnitine, myristoyl carnitine, and salts and mixtures thereof.
100. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79 wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is a compound or mixture of compounds having an HLB value less than about 10.
- 25 101. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alcohols; polyoxyethylene alkylethers; fatty acids; bile acids; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lower alcohol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol fatty acids esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; propylene glycol diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; transesterified vegetable oils; sterols; sterol

- 1 derivatives; sugar esters; sugar ethers; sucroglycerides; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.
- 5 102. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids; bile acids; lower alcohol fatty acid esters; polyethylene glycol glycerol fatty acid esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene glycerides; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters;
- 10 10 10 polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymers; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; polyoxyethylene hydrogenated vegetable oils; reaction mixtures of polyols and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols; and mixtures thereof.
- 15 15 103. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of bile acids; lower alcohol fatty acids esters; polypropylene glycol fatty acid esters; propylene glycol fatty acid esters; glycerol fatty acid esters; acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters; lactic acid derivatives of mono/diglycerides; sorbitan fatty acid esters; polyoxyethylene vegetable oils; and mixtures thereof.
- 20 104. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is a glycerol fatty acid ester, an acetylated glycerol fatty acid ester, or a mixture thereof.
105. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 104, wherein the glycerol fatty acid ester is a monoglyceride, diglyceride, or a mixture thereof.
- 25 106. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 105, wherein the fatty acid of the glycerol fatty acid ester is a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid or a mixture thereof.
107. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is a reaction mixture of a polyol and at least one member of the group consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.
- 30 108. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 107, wherein the reaction mixture is a transesterification product of a polyol and at least one member of the group

1 consisting of fatty acids, glycerides, vegetable oils, hydrogenated vegetable oils, and sterols.

109. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 107, wherein the polyol is polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, propylene glycol, pentaerythritol, a saccharide, or a mixture
5 thereof.

110. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid; oleic acid; lauric acid; stearic acid; palmitic acid; PEG 1-4 stearate; PEG 2-4 oleate; PEG-4 dilaurate; PEG-4 dioleate; PEG-4 distearate; PEG-6 dioleate; PEG-6 distearate; PEG-8 dioleate; PEG 3-16
10 castor oil; PEG 5-10 hydrogenated castor oil; PEG 6-20 corn oil; PEG 6-20 almond oil; PEG-6 olive oil; PEG-6 peanut oil; PEG-6 palm kernel oil; PEG-6 hydrogenated palm kernel oil; PEG-4 capric/caprylic triglyceride, mono, di, tri, tetra esters of vegetable oil and sorbitol; pentaerythrityl di, tetra stearate, isostearate, oleate, caprylate, or caprate; polyglyceryl 2-4 oleate, stearate, or isostearate; polyglyceryl 4-10 pentaoleate;
15 polyglyceryl-3 dioleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; polyglyceryl-10 trioleate; polyglyceryl-3 distearate; propylene glycol mono- or diesters of a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; monoglycerides of a C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; acetylated monoglycerides of C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acid; diglycerides of C₆ to C₂₂ fatty acids; lactic acid derivatives of monoglycerides; lactic acid derivatives of diglycerides; cholesterol; phytosterol; PEG 5-20 soya sterol; PEG-6 sorbitan tetra,
20 hexastearate; PEG-6 sorbitan tetraoleate; sorbitan monolaurate; sorbitan monopalmitate; sorbitan mono, trioleate; sorbitan mono, tristearate; sorbitan monoisostearate; sorbitan sesquioleate; sorbitan sesquistearate; PEG 2-5 oleyl ether; POE 2-4 lauryl ether; PEG-2 cetyl ether; PEG-2 stearyl ether; sucrose distearate; sucrose dipalmitate; ethyl oleate; isopropyl myristate; isopropyl palmitate; ethyl linoleate; isopropyl linoleate; poloxamers;
25 cholic acid; ursodeoxycholic acid; glycocholic acid; taurocholic acid; lithocholic acid; deoxycholic acid; chenodeoxycholic acid; and mixtures thereof.

111. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 100, wherein the hydrophobic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of oleic acid; lauric acid; glycetyl monocaprate; glycetyl monocaprylate; glycetyl monolaurate; glycetyl monooleate;
30 glycetyl dicaprate; glycetyl dicaprylate; glycetyl dilaurate; glycetyl dioleate; acetylated monoglycerides; propylene glycol oleate; propylene glycol laurate; polyglyceryl-3 oleate; polyglyceryl-6 dioleate; PEG-6 corn oil; PEG-20 corn oil; PEG-20 almond oil; sorbitan

1 monooleate; sorbitan monolaurate; POE-4 lauryl ether; POE-3 oleyl ether; ethyl oleate; poloxamers; cholic acid; ursodeoxycholic acid; glycocholic acid; taurocholic acid; lithocholic acid; deoxycholic acid; chenodeoxycholic acid; and mixtures thereof.

5 112. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the therapeutic agent is a drug, a vitamin, a nutritional supplement, a cosmeceutical, or a mixture thereof.

113. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the therapeutic agent is a hydrophobic drug.

114. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 113, wherein the hydrophobic drug has a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

10 115. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the therapeutic agent is a hydrophilic drug.

116. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 115, wherein the hydrophilic drug is a peptidomimetic, a peptide, a protein, an oligonucleotide, an oligodeoxynucleotide, RNA, DNA, genetic material, derivatives or analogues thereof, or a mixture thereof.

117. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 115, wherein the hydrophilic drug has a molecular weight of less than about 1000 g/mol.

118. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the surfactants are present in amounts such that the triglyceride can be present in an amount greater than the 20 amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride and a carrier having a hydrophilic surfactant but not having a hydrophobic surfactant, and having the same total surfactant concentration.

119. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution in an 25 aqueous solution to composition ratio of about 10:1 by weight, the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion.

120. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution in an aqueous solution to composition ratio of about 100:1 by weight, the composition forms a 30 clear aqueous dispersion.

121. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, wherein the clear aqueous dispersion has an absorbance of less than about 0.3 at about 400 nm when the composition

1 is diluted with an aqueous solution in an aqueous solution to composition ratio of 100:1 by weight.

122. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 121, wherein the absorbance is less than about 0.2.

5 123. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 121, wherein the absorbance is less than about 0.1.

124. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, which further comprises a solubilizer.

125. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 124, wherein the solubilizer is
10 selected from the group consisting of alcohols, polyols, amides, esters, propylene glycol ethers and mixtures thereof.

126. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 125, wherein the alcohol or polyol is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, butanediols and isomers thereof, glycerol,
15 pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, maltol, maltodextrins, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and cyclodextrin derivatives, and mixtures thereof.

127. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 125, wherein the amide is
20 selected from the group consisting of 2-pyrrolidone, 2-piperidone, ϵ -caprolactam, N-alkylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxymethylpyrrolidone, N-alkylpiperidone, N-alkylcaprolactam, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

128. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 125, wherein the ester is selected from the group consisting of ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, acetyl triethylcitrate, acetyl
25 tributyl citrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, ethyl butyrate, triacetin, propylene glycol monoacetate, propylene glycol diacetate, ϵ -caprolactone and isomers thereof, δ -valerolactone and isomers thereof, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, and mixtures thereof.

129. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 124, wherein the solubilizer is
30 selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, butanediol and isomers thereof, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol,

- 1 polypropylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and other cellulose derivatives, cyclodextrins and derivatives thereof, ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, acetyl triethylcitrate, acetyl tributyl citrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, ethyl butyrate, triacetin, propylene glycol diacetate, ϵ -caprolactone and isomers thereof, δ -valerolactone and isomers thereof, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, 2-pyrrolidone, 2-piperidone, ϵ -caprolactam, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-ethylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethyl pyrrolidone, N-octylpyrrolidone, N-laurylpyrrolidone, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, glycofurool, methoxy PEG, and mixtures thereof.
- 5

10 130. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 124, wherein the solubilizer is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, isopropanol, benzyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 1,3-butanediol, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, glycofurool, transcutol, dimethyl isosorbide, polyethylene glycol, polyvinylalcohol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcyclodextrins, sulfobutyl ether derivatives of cyclodextrins, ethyl propionate, tributylcitrate, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, triacetin, β -butyrolactone and isomers thereof, 2-pyrrolidone, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-ethylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidone, N-octylpyrrolidone, N-laurylpyrrolidone, dimethylacetamide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

15

131. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 124, wherein the solubilizer is triacetin, triethylcitrate, ethyl oleate, ethyl caprylate, dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, N-hydroxyethylpyrrolidone, polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cyclodextrins, ethanol, polyethylene glycol 200-600, glycofurool, transcutol, propylene glycol, dimethyl isosorbide, or a mixture thereof.

20

132. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 124, wherein the solubilizer is triacetin, ethanol, polyethylene glycol 400, glycofurool, propylene glycol or a mixture thereof.

25

133. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, which further comprises an antioxidant, a bufferant, an antifoaming agent, a detackifier, a preservative, a chelating agent, a viscomodulator, a tonicifier, a flavorant, a colorant, an odorant, an opacifier, a suspending agent, a binder, a filler, a plasticizer, a lubricant, or a mixture thereof.

30

134. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, which further comprises an amount of an enzyme inhibiting agent sufficient to at least partially inhibit enzymatic degradation of the therapeutic agent.

- 1 135. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 134, wherein the enzyme inhibitor is solubilized or suspended in the preconcentrate.
136. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, which further comprises an aqueous medium comprising water, an aqueous palatable diluent or an aqueous beverage.
- 5 137. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 136, wherein the therapeutic agent is provided to the composition in the aqueous medium.
138. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 136, wherein the aqueous medium further comprises an amount of an enzyme inhibiting agent sufficient to at least partially inhibit enzymatic degradation of the therapeutic agent.
- 10 139. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79 in the form of a preconcentrate in a liquid, semi-solid, or solid form, or as an aqueous or organic diluted preconcentrate.
140. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 79 processed by lyophilization, encapsulation, extruding, compression, melting, molding, spraying, coating, comminution, mixing, homogenization, sonication, granulation, or a combination thereof.
141. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 79 formulated as a pill, capsule, caplet, tablet, granule, bead or powder.
142. The dosage form of claim 141, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulose capsule, a hard gelatin capsule or a soft gelatin capsule.
143. The dosage form of claim 141, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulose capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.
144. The dosage form of claim 141, which further comprises an enteric coating, a seal coating, or both.
- 25 145. A dosage form comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 79 formulated as a solution, suspension, emulsion, cream, ointment, lotion, suppository, spray, aerosol, paste, gel, drops, douche, ovule, wafer, troche, cachet, syrup or elixer.
146. A dosage form comprising a multiparticulate carrier coated onto a substrate with the pharmaceutical composition of claim 79.
- 30 147. The dosage form of claim 146, wherein the substrate is a particle, a granule or a bead, and is formed of the therapeutic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable material, or a mixture thereof.

1 148. The dosage form of claim 146, wherein the multiparticulate carrier is
enteric coated, seal coated, or both.

5 149. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 79, which further comprises an
additional amount of the therapeutic agent, said additional amount not solubilized in the
composition.

10 150. The dosage form of claim 146, wherein the dosage form is further
processed by encapsulation, compression, extrusion or molding.

15 151. The dosage form of claim 146, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, a hard gelatin capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.

10 152. The dosage form of claim 146, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a
cellulosic capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.

15 153. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a triglyceride;

20 (b) a carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the
surfactants being hydrophilic, wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present
in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms
a clear aqueous dispersion;

25 (c) a first amount of a therapeutic agent, said first amount being
solubilized in the triglyceride, the carrier, or both the triglyceride and the carrier;
and

30 (d) a second amount of a therapeutic agent, said second amount not
solubilized in the triglyceride or the carrier.

154. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a triglyceride; and

25 (b) a carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the
surfactants being hydrophilic,
wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon
mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion,
and wherein the triglyceride is present in an amount greater than the amount of the
triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the triglyceride
and a carrier having only one surfactant, the surfactant being hydrophilic, and
having the same total surfactant concentration.

1 155. The composition of claim 154, wherein the triglyceride comprises a
digestible oil.

5 156. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 154, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of vegetable oils, fish oils, animal fats, hydrogenated
vegetable oils, partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, synthetic triglycerides, and mixtures
thereof.

10 157. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 154, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of almond oil; babassu oil; borage oil; blackcurrant
seed oil; canola oil; castor oil; coconut oil; corn oil; cottonseed oil; evening primrose oil;
grapeseed oil; groundnut oil; mustard seed oil; olive oil; palm oil; palm kernel oil; peanut
oil; rapeseed oil; safflower oil; sesame oil; shark liver oil; soybean oil; sunflower oil;
hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil; hydrogenated palm oil; hydrogenated
soybean oil; hydrogenated vegetable oil; hydrogenated cottonseed and castor oil; partially
hydrogenated soybean oil; partially soy and cottonseed oil; glyceryl tricaproate; glyceryl
15 tricaprylate; glyceryl tricaprate; glyceryl triundecanoate; glyceryl trilaurate; glyceryl
trioleate; glyceryl trilinoleate; glyceryl trilinolenate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate; glyceryl
tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glyceryl
tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides;
caprylic/capric glycerides; and mixtures thereof.

20 158. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 154, wherein the triglyceride is
selected from the group consisting of coconut oil; corn oil; olive oil; palm oil; peanut oil;
safflower oil; sesame oil; soybean oil; hydrogenated castor oil; hydrogenated coconut oil;
partially hydrogenated soybean oil; glyceryl tricaprante; glyceryl trilaurate; glyceryl
trioleate; glyceryl trilinoleate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate; glyceryl
25 tricaprylate/caprate/laurate; glyceryl tricaprylate/caprate/linoleate; glyceryl
tricaprylate/caprate/stearate; saturated polyglycolized glycerides; linoleic glycerides;
caprylic/capric glycerides; and mixtures thereof.

159. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 154, wherein the triglyceride is a
medium chain triglyceride, a long chain triglyceride, or a mixture thereof.

30 160. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 154, which further comprises a
therapeutic agent.

1 161. A method of treating an animal with a therapeutic agent, the method comprising:

5 (a) providing a dosage form of a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

 (i) a triglyceride; and

 (ii) a carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the surfactants being hydrophilic,

10 wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion;

 (b) providing a therapeutic agent; and

 (c) administering said dosage form to said animal.

15 162. The method of claim 161, wherein the dosage form comprises the pharmaceutical composition processed by lyophilization, encapsulation, extruding, compression, melting, molding, spraying, coating, comminution, mixing, homogenization, sonication, granulation, or a combination thereof.

20 163. The method of claim 161, wherein the dosage form comprises the pharmaceutical composition formulated as a pill, capsule, caplet, tablet, granule, bead or powder.

25 164. The method of claim 163, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulosic capsule, a hard gelatin capsule or a soft gelatin capsule.

165. The method of claim 163, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulosic capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.

25 166. The method of claim 163, wherein the capsule further comprises an enteric coating, a seal coating, or both.

167. The method of claim 161, wherein the dosage form comprises the pharmaceutical composition formulated as a solution, suspension, emulsion, cream, ointment, lotion, suppository, spray, aerosol, paste, gel, drops, douche, ovule, wafer, troche, cachet, syrup or elixer.

30 168. The method of claim 161, wherein the dosage form comprises a multiparticulate carrier coated onto a substrate with the pharmaceutical composition.

1 169. The method of claim 168, wherein the substrate is a particle, a granule or a bead, and is formed of the therapeutic agent, a pharmaceutically acceptable material or a mixture thereof.

5 170. The method of claim 168, wherein the multiparticulate carrier is enteric coated, seal coated, or both.

10 171. The method of claim 168, wherein the dosage form is further processed by encapsulation, compression, extrusion or molding.

15 172. The method of claim 168, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulosic capsule, a hard gelatin capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.

20 173. The method of claim 168, wherein the capsule is a starch capsule, a cellulosic capsule, or a soft gelatin capsule.

25 174. The method of claim 161, wherein the therapeutic agent is provided by solubilizing the therapeutic agent in the triglyceride, in the carrier, or in both the triglyceride and the carrier.

30 175. The method of claim 161, wherein the therapeutic agent is provided separately from the dosage form of the pharmaceutical composition.

35 176. The method of claim 161, wherein the dosage form is administered by an oral, parenteral, buccal, topical, transdermal, ocular, pulmonary, vaginal, rectal or transmucosal route.

40 177. The method of claim 161, wherein the animal is a mammal.

45 178. The method of claim 177, wherein the mammal is a human.

50 179. A method of increasing the amount of a triglyceride that can be solubilized in a clear aqueous dispersion, the method comprising:

55 (a) providing a composition comprising a triglyceride and a carrier, the carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the surfactants being hydrophilic; and

60 (b) dispersing the composition in an aqueous solution,
wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion, and wherein the triglyceride is present in an amount greater than the amount of the triglyceride that remains solubilized in an aqueous dispersion of the

1 triglyceride and a carrier having only one surfactant and having the same total surfactant concentration.

180. The method of claim 179, wherein the step of dispersing the composition comprises mixing the composition with an aqueous solution *in vitro*.

5 181. The method of claim 179, wherein the step of dispersing the composition comprises allowing the composition to contact an aqueous biological solution *in vivo* upon administering the composition to an animal.

10 182. A method of treating an animal with a therapeutic agent, the method comprising:

(a) providing a dosage form of a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- (i) an effective amount of a triglyceride; and
- (ii) a carrier comprising at least two surfactants, at least one of the surfactants being hydrophilic,

15 wherein the triglyceride and surfactants are present in amounts such that upon mixing with an aqueous solution the composition forms a clear aqueous dispersion; and

- (b) administering said dosage form to said animal.

183. The method of claim 182, wherein the effective amount of the triglyceride
20 is a nutritionally effective amount of a digestible oil.

184. The method of claim 182, wherein the effective amount of the triglyceride is an amount sufficient to improve the bioabsorption of a therapeutic agent co-administered with the dosage form of the pharmaceutical composition.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US00/15133	
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :A61K 9/08, 9/10, 9/12, 9/14, 9/16, 9/20, 9/28, 9/48, 9/66
 US CL :424/430, 436, 451, 455, 456, 463, 464, 465, 489, 490

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 424/430, 436, 451, 455, 456, 463, 464, 465, 489, 490

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,817,320 A (STONE) 06 October 1998, see column 4, line 63 through column 5, line 37, example 3, column 8, lines 28-36, column 9, lines 53-62.	1-184
A, P	5,948,825 A (TAKAHASHI et al) 07 September 1999, see entire document.	1-184

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
A	Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*T*	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
B	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*X*	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
L	document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Y*	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
O	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	*a*	document member of the same patent family
P	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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